# THE EDINBURGH WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22. 1784.


## *BRITISH PARLIAMENT.*

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

*Monday, March* 15.

PASSED the mutiny, the marine mutiny, and the Commiſſioners of land tax bills, and the Edinburgh road bill.

Read a firſt time the Scots proteſtants bill.

*Tueſday, March* 23.

PASSED the American trade, the linen bounty, the Iſle of Wight regulation, the militia, the papiſts inrolment, the convicts, the Spalding roads, and the Andover incloſure bills.

Lord Mahon's bill for preventing bribery at elections, being brought up from the Commons, and read the firſt time,

*Lord Mansfield* roſe to explain the inutility of paſſing ſuch a bill, as the law againſt the evil complained of was already ſufficiently ſtrong to curb it if appealed to; it would therefore be only making acts of parliament upon acts of parliament for no good purpoſe whatever; it was merely an attempt to amend laws which the framer muſt be totally unacquainted with; the beſt way he knew effectually to prevent bribery would be for thoſe who wiſhed to be Members of a certain Aſſembly, to ſtop it in the firſt inſtance, and then there would be no need of making laws afterwards to prevent it in future; or if there were ſtill ſome hardy enough to give, as well as receive, and they were brought before him with unequivocal evidence, he could already produce ſufficient law for their puniſhment; for theſe among other reaſons, his Lordſhip thought there could not be any motive for paſſing the preſent bill; but that the Houſe might be convinced of its inſignificance, he moved for its being printed, which was ordered accordingly;—by which means, a diſſolution taking place, the bill is entirely loſt.

Adjourned till Wedenſday.

[Excepting Mr Fox's India bill, the Lords have had little or no public buſineſs before them this ſeſſion.]

*Friday, March* 12.

MR ALDERMAN SAWBRIDGE moved his pro-

poſition for the appointment of a Committee to take into conſideration the ſtate of the repreſentation of the people. He briefly gave his reaſons for undertaking this office, which he ſaid he wiſhed had remained in the hands of the Right Honourable Gentleman; but as he had put the queſtion to him, and he had replied that he did not mean at that time to renew his propoſition, he was ſorry to ſay that he appeared to have abandoned the cauſe. He wiſhed it had fallen into abler hands, but it was a propoſition ſo ſelf-evidently neceſſary, and for which their conſtituents had ſo loudly called, that he did not heſitate to bring it forward. He concluded with moving his propoſition.

MR ALDERMAN NEWNHAM ſeconded the motion, contending very ſtrongly for the neceſſity of it.

MR MARTIN ſaid he muſt always be for ſuch a motion, but deſpaired of ſeeing the reform take place till the non-electors of Britain ſhould meet, and form an aſſociation for reclaiming their rights.

SIR ROBERT CLAYTON thought it might be neceſſary for him to give his reaſons for agreeing to the propoſition now, as he voted againſt it two years ago. His conſtituents were for it, and he was one of thoſe who thought it their duty to obey their conſtituents. He ſpoke in animated terms of Mr Fox's conduct. Said he ſupported him on principle, and ſhould continue to give him his decided voice, while he perſevered in the courſe he had hitherto purſued.

SIR WATKIN LEWES ſupported the motion, aſſerting that he knew it to be not only the ſenſe of his conſtituents, but of the people in general.

LORD MAHON ſaid he was for the queſtion, but could not avoid thinking it ſingular that the two worthy Aldermen who made and ſeconded the motion ſhould give as a reaſon, that it was the ſenſe of their conſtituents.

MR DEMPSTER declared himſelf eager for the motion. No part of the country wanted reform in its repreſentation more than that to which he belonged. It had been calculated that not more than one in an hundred in Scotland had a vote for a repreſentative. But it would have been nearer the truth to have ſaid, that not more than one in a thouſand had a vote, through the ſhameful reſtrictions put upon their conſtitution.

MR BYNG ſpoke with ardour on the queſtion, urging it in the moſt forcible manner to the conſideration of the Houſe.

MR LOVEDEN ſaid he would oppoſe the motion, becauſe a ſelect Committee, ſuch as the Honourable Gentleman intended to move for, would moſt probably be a partial Committee, and would, therefore, bring forth only ſuch reſolutions as would be agreeable to a party.

SIR EDWARD ASTLEY declared ſtrongly for it.

MR POWIS ſaid he ſuppoſed it would be neceſſary for him to apologize to the Houſe for his conſiſtency. In three ſeveral adminiſtrations he had perſiſted in his opinion againſt any reform in the repreſentation in that Houſe. The ſettled form, with all its faults, had ſo often demonſtrated its efficacy, that though of late its ſolemn voice had been deſpiſed, he was not one of thoſe who gave ear to all the wild chimeras of improvement which were inceſſantly ſuggeſted. He was aware, however, that in the preſent moment the miniſter of the crown was bound, not only as to himſelf, but alſo with all who lately preſumed to treat the ſenſe of the Houſe lightly, to vote for a reform. They profeſſed to treat the Houſe lightly, becauſe they did not ſpeak the ſenſe of the people. For his own part, he was convinced the Houſe was well conſti-

tuted. In a late addreſs they had ſtated, that they had no intereſt diſtinct from thoſe of their conſtituents, and that was the true quality of repreſentation.

MR DUNCOMBE ſaid it would be expected from him, that on ſuch a day he would not give a ſilent vote. His conſtituents had ſo explicitly declared their ſenſe for a reform in the conſtitution of that Houſe, that he ſhould moſt certainly give his vote for the propoſition.

MR FOX entered into the queſtion at length, contending for the neceſſity of the reform. He was not one of thoſe, he ſaid, who conſidered that Houſe as perfectly inadequate to its functions in the conſtitution, and as degenerated from its original character. It was not the worſt ſyſtem of repreſentation, nor was its conſtitution the moſt faulty; but it was his opinion, that that Houſe might with a very little amendment be made a more complete repreſentation of the people than it was at preſent. Speaking of it collectively, it was his opinion that the Houſe never could have intereſts diſtinct from thoſe of its conſtituents. Individuals might have diſtinct intereſts, and that they had ſo was the complaint of every one. It was this, and this only, which ought to incite the lovers of the people to preſs a reform; but that reform ought to be as ſimple, and as little different from the preſent form as poſſible. The various romantic theories, with the notions of individual equality, and ſchemes which daily more and more expoſed themſelves, he muſt reprobate, though they came from men who in private life he loved.

Mr Fox then adverted to the argument of Mr Powys, that thoſe who had treated the votes of that Houſe with indifference, as not going with the ſenſe of the nation, ought certainly to vote for a reform, in order, in future, to make the vote of that Houſe the ſenſe of the people. This was, he ſaid, clearly alſo his opinion. The Miniſter of the Crown was bound to vote for his own meaſure.—But having, with his friends, gone ſuch immoderate, new, and dangerous lengths in deſpiſing the ſenſe of that Houſe, and degrading it, he was now called upon by the moſt forcible arguments to come forward with all thoſe who joined in his contemptuous treatment of that Houſe, and to ſeize on the opportunity which the Honourable Alderman had given him of purifying the aſſembly, and making it really the repreſentative of the nation. If they did not do this, their conduct would appear ſtill more alarming than it had yet done, as then it would appear that they firſt deſpiſed the ſenſe of the Houſe becauſe they did not ſpeak the ſenſe of their conſtituents, and then took care that they never ſhould be ſo reformed as at any future time to ſpeak it. What more could any deſpotic king, or profligate miniſter, require? What more was requiſite to complete the overthrow of the people? It would be an eternal argument againſt complying with the wiſhes of that Houſe. Deny its requeſts, becauſe it was not the repreſentative of the people; and take care that it never ſhall be made what they chuſe to call the repreſentative of the people. In the character, the conſiſtency, and the original principles of the Right Honourable Gentleman, he truſted he would never act ſo unwiſely as to ſuffer his friends to ſhrink from the preſent queſtion.

A great deal had been ſaid about modes of reform. With ſome ſmall alterations he confeſſed he thought the idea of adding a certain number of knights of ſhires the moſt practicable. If that had happened laſt year, would the late majorities have been different? If the queſtions had been decided by the county members only, the majorities would have been regularly on the ſame ſide. If they

had been decided by the members for great cities and populous boroughs, they would have been the ſame—there was only one alteration which would have given the Miniſtry a greater influence in the Houſe, and that was by enlarging the repreſentation for Scotland and Cornwall — The extremities alone had ſhown themſelves more favourable to the Miniſter; but he believed it did not make a part of any ſcheme of reform, that the repreſentation for Scotland and Cornwall ſhould be enlarged.

When the Miniſter talked of diſfranchiſing decayed and rotten boroughs, he propoſed that the property in them ſhould be purchaſed. As to himſelf, who thought, on the contrary, that there was no property in a truſt, but that it was a tenure for the benefit of the governed, and not for the intereſt of the governor, he did not perceive the juſtice of extinguiſhing thoſe boroughs by purchaſe. The Right Honourable Gentleman, however, did, and they were to be purchaſed by different means—by places, penſions, or titles.

To the Miniſter of the prerogative, titles were unqueſtionably the eaſieſt purchaſe, and he dared ſay that the Right Honourable Gentleman had now ſeveral valuable ſurrenders in his pocket, which he would preſent to the Houſe that night, as ſo much gained towards purifying the repreſentation, ſuch as St Germains, Leſkeard, Grampound, Beeralſtone, and others.

As to old Sarum, he ſuppoſed, inſtead of giving it to the Bank, which was the deſign of laſt year, it was to be given to the Eaſt India Company, as being more ſeaſonable and neceſſary. It was impoſſible to imagine that a miniſtry ſo pure, and who took ſuch offence at the Houſe of Commons in its preſent ſtate, could make any perſonal uſe of the boroughs he had mentioned. They were enemies no corruption, and only gave titles to pirtfy the conſtitution.

Mr Fox ſpoke with great force and earneſtneſs for the queſtion, and ſaid that he truſted in God they would come ſeriouſly and ultimately to the deciſion of the queſtion. To keep it conſtantly ſwimming in the minds of the public, to be conſtantly agitated, and never with deciſion, was a matter which he thought highly injurious.—It tended only ot circulate notions of the inadequacy of that Houſe to its purpoſes; lowered its character in the country, and aided the views of theſe ſecret adviſers of the Crown, who had ſo long, and by the moſt inſidious arts, laboured to diminiſh its influence, as aprelude, perhaps, to the extinction of itspowers.

MR EDEN ſaid he had always been decidedly againſt liſtening to the ſchemes of reformers in the repreſentation, and he ſaw no occurrence now which ſhould make him alter his opinion

MR PITT and Mr Erſkine riſing at the ſame time, Mr Pitt ſaid he would give way to his learned friend, as ſo little had yet been ſaid againſt the motion, that he, who was warmly for it, had no argument to contend with and refute.

MR ERSKINE entered into the reaſons which induced him to alter his ſentiments on the preſent motion. Two years ago, when he heard the Right Honourable Gentleman make his motion, he was warmly againſt the prepoſition of reform, and longed for a ſeat in the Houſe, to give his voice againſt it. In this ſeſſion he ſaw the neceſſity of it. Miniſters called the preſent Houſe of Commons an aſſembly that did not ſpeak the ſentiments of the people. Could they refuſe then to purify it?

MR CHANCELLOR PITT, in a vein of irony, endeavoured to entertain the Houſe at the expence of Mr Erſkine, and then proceeded to the queſtion, for which he argued with great eloquence. The paſſage in the addreſs quoted by Mr Powis,

that the Houſe collectively could have no intereſt diſtinct from their conſtituents, if it was true, he ſaid, ought certainly to be a reaſon for denying the preſent motion; and on Mr Powis's principle, all thoſe who thought themſelves bound to ſubmit to the reſolutions of that Houſe muſt vote againſt the motion, ſeeing it was a reſolution of the Houſe that as at preſent conſtituted they anſwered all the purpoſes of their delegation.

He could not avoid obſerving, alſo, that the warmeſt advocates for the motion had taken very ſtrange means to ſupport it. The worthy Alderman who had moved it had ſaid, that he had abandoned the principle. Was this a way to conciliate men's minds to the queſtion? They had uſed every means of provoking, inſulting, and ſouring the minds of gentlemen. They had made *illiberal, unjuſtifiable, malicious, and ſcandalous attacks on gentlemen.*

[The other ſide of the Houſe took fire at theſe words, and Mr Fox aſked if ſuch epithets were orderly?—Some confuſion enſued, on which the Speaker interfered.]

Mr Pitt continued, that when the worthy Alderman charged him directly with abandoning his principles, the words he ſpoke, as part of a ſentence which he was not permitted to finiſh, expreſſed the ſentiments he felt, and which he would not retract. He entered at conſiderable length into the grounds of the queſtion, and ſtated what had always been his ideas on the ſubject of reform. He concluded with calling on Lord North.

Mr SAWBRIDGE explained, and in regard to the epithets, that he might not be diſorderly by repeating them, he would content himſelf with retorting them on the right honourable gentleman.

Lord NORTH ſpoke againſt the motion, urging the conduct of the preſent Houſe, as a proof how efficient the preſent form of repreſentation was. He was an enemy, he ſaid, to all ſchemes he had ever yet heard, and reverenced the conſtitution too much to put an innovating hand to it.

Mr SHERIDAN ſaid, the addreſs of the right hon. gentleman on the occaſion was conſpicuous. It made him entertain ſuſpicions ſimilar to thoſe brought againſt him by the worthy Alderman. In the firſt place, he made a learned gentleman the ſubject of his ridicule for having come over to the queſtion. He then laboured to convince one large body of his followers that they ought not to vote for it; and leaſt the noble Lord in the blue ribband ſhould be ſilent, he goaded him on to ſpeak.

Mr COURTENAY entered into a ſerious argument on the queſtion, for which the Houſe now became very impatient.

General ROSS got up, and the gallery was cleared.

The Houſe then dividing, there appeared, ayes 93, noes 141, majority againſt the queſtion 48.

The Houſe being returned, Mr Burke aſked Mr Pitt if it was his intention ever to come to any final diſcuſſion of this queſtion?

Mr Pitt ſaid that would depend on circumſtances.

The Earl of SURREY replied, that if Mr Pitt would not ſay that he meant to come forward with a propoſition on the ſubject, he would make one on the 7th of April next.

The Houſe then roſe at eleven.

*Monday, March* 15.

THE order of the day was read, for the Houſe to ballot for a committee, to examine into a report from the Directors of the Eaſt India Company. The Serjeant at Arms, as uſual, went out with the mace, and, being returned, the Houſe was called over, and the names put into glaſſes, and a committee appointed to exa-

mine the lists, who withdrew for that purpose, and some time after returned, when Mr Pratt reported the names on the ballot, the report was read, and the members returned are as follow, viz.

George Dempster, Esq; Sir Grey Cooper, Bart. Sir Gilbert Elliot, Bart. Henry Beaufoy, Esq; Robert Smith. Esq; Sir Adam Fergusson, Bart, Henry Strachey, Esq; William Huffey, Esq; Henry Banks, Esq; Lord Vis. Beauchamp, Sir G. Shuckburgh, Bart. Philip Yorke, Esq; Henry Thornton, Esq; the Right Honourable William Eden, Brooke Watson, Esq.

The committee are to sit notwithstanding an adjournment, and to have power to adjourn from place to place.

The order of the day was read for the House to go into a committee of the whole House on the militia bill, the House resolved itself into a committee accordingly, and went through the bill.

Sir Ashton Lever's bill was presented, and read a first time.

Read a first time the linen bounty bill.

The *Secretary at War* presented extraordinaries of the navy. Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr Alderman *Newenham* moved for "leave to bring in a bill to discontinue the petty custom on alien goods imported into Great Britain, and the duty of one per centum on goods exported to, or imported from the Mediterranean Seas, in unqualified ships. and for repealing so much of an act passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present Majesty, as enacts, that no part of the old subsidy shall be drawn back upon goods exported to the British colonies or plantations in America.

The bill to continue the provisions of an act of the 23d of his present Majesty, for granting a bounty upon the exportation of British and Irish buckrams, fillettings, &c. was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Tuesday, March* 16.

READ a first time the bill for continuing the act of last session, for carrying on trade and commerce with America.

Read also a first time the Chelsea Hospital bill, and that for discontinuing the petty custom on alien goods imported, &c.

*Wednesday, March* 17.

The order of the day being read, for the house to go into a committee of supply, Mr Ord took the chair, when

Sir *George Yonge* moved, that the sum of 173,001 l. 15 s. 5½ d. be granted to his Majesty, for the pay, &c. of Chelsea Hospital.

Sir *Cecil Wray* said, he had examined the above estimate, which was on an average 51 l. 5 s. per man; therefore, as the evil could not be remedied while the hospital remained, he sincerely wished to see it pulled down.

The question being put on Sir George Yonge's motion, it was agreed to.

Adjourned.

*Friday, March* 19.

The order of the day being then read for the report of the amendments made in the committee on the American trade,

Lord *Sheffield* said, he was sorry to find it necessary to oppose the bill in its last stage; but the distrust of the minister, which he had expressed on a former day, was greatly increased by the requisition, to have the extraordinary powers contained in it granted for so long a term as three months—at this period of the session

eſpecially, it was very extraordinary; the preſent Solicitor-general had, no longer ago than laſt year, objected to it for more than three weeks. His Lordſhip truſted the Houſe would not think any bill of the kind neceſſary; every meaſure, in any degree complicated, appeared to the ignorant extremely difficult; but when men would give themſelves the trouble of a little enquiry and examination, that which ſeemed difficult would appear perfectly ſimple and eaſy. He was ſure it would prove ſo, as to what was neceſſary to be done in regard to America; but if this was too much for the miniſter, the late proclamations might have been thrown for the preſent into a bill. The miniſter might have propoſed ſuch alterations or omiſſions as his knowledge might ſuggeſt; any other miniſter would have ſtudiouſly declined ſuch extraordinary reſponſibility.—Hitherto the friends of the miniſter had for the ground of their confidence, that he had done nothing; he could not conſider him in ſuch a ſtate of innocence. His Lordſhip ſtated ſeveral acts, by which he judged of the miniſter, and ſaid they ought to inſpire every man with diſtruſt, inſtead of confidence; that part of his conduct was highly impeachable. His Lordſhip ſtated a converſation, but the Houſe being diſorderly, little more was heard.

Sir *P. J. Clerke* ſaid a few words againſt the alterations which had taken place with reſpect to the date of the powers which the bill entruſted with the Crown.

Mr Chancellor *Pitt* ſtated the urgency of the meaſure, which ſeeming to ſatisfy the Houſe, the report was committed.

This buſineſs being over, Lord *Mahon* roſe, and moved that the committee on the bill to prevent bribery and corruption be committed.

Captain *Minchin* obſerved, that no man had been more forward and decided in favour of chartered rights than the noble Lord who was the author of the preſent bill. He was aſtoniſhed, therefore, that he, who had ſo ſtrenouſly inſiſted on the other doctrine, ſhould ever have adopted this; as, in his opinion, the preſent bill went the complete length to deprive poor electors of the exerciſe of their conſtitutional right: It ſeemed as if poverty in an elector was, according to the noble lord's reaſoning, an unpardonable crime. For his own part, he thought very differently, and was one of thoſe who ſaw no reaſon in the world why electors in ſuch circumſtances as had been deſcribed ſhould be put to any improper expence in the exerciſe of what was their undoubted privilege. He mentioned a variety of caſes in which the bill would operate as a hardſhip on ſeveral claſſes of individuals: And conſidering the queſtion in this light, moved that the word *now* in the motion be left out, and the phraſe four months be inſerted in its room.

Lord *John Cavendiſh* agreed with the honourable gentleman, and added a great variety of very ſhrewd remarks, all tending to expoſe the abſurdity and impropriety of adopting the bill into a law. It would be, he ſaid, an embargo on the freedom of elections, and render the exerciſe of that valuable franchiſe impracticable to thoſe whoſe circumſtances in life would not permit them to be at the expence; and he ſhould be ſorry to ſee any ſyſtem enacted which would leſſen the power of the people, as the bill then before them, by abridging it, would do.

Lord *Mahon* endeavoured to exculpate the bill from all theſe charges, and challenged its oppoſers to ſubſtantiate their allegations by a ſtatement of the facts. He attributed the exceptions made by the noble Lord who had ſpoken laſt to his ignorance of the object which his bill went to ſecure, and of the law as it now ſtood

reſpecting bribery and corruption. Many of his friends, he ſaid, were of opinion, that expences ſhould be allowed thoſe who voted at elections. Whatever his ideas on that point were, and he had thought of it ſo much, that he was determined, ſome time or other, to take the ſenſe of the Houſe on it, the aim of the preſent bill was very different. He did not wiſh to proſcribe defraying neceſſary and unavoidable expences, but only that no money ſhould be given under that pretext; and he hoped the bill framed for that purpoſe was ſufficiently expreſſive.

Mr *Bowes* declared himſelf againſt the whole bill, thinking the law againſt bribery and corruption, as it now ſtands, ſufficiently ſevere.

The *Attorney-General* replied, ſtating what the law was in the particular caſe referred to by the preceding ſpeaker.

Mr Eden, Lord North, and Mr Pitt then ſpoke, after which the queſtion being put whether the word *now* ſhould ſtand part of the report, the Houſe divided, and there appeared, ayes 70, noes 49.

A converſation then aroſe reſpecting the general principle of the bill, againſt which Mr Dempſter exclaimed much. Sir William Dolben propoſed adopting five ſhillings tickets, to be received from the hands of the returning officer alone, as being the moſt likely way to ſecure the expences of thoſe who could not well afford defraying them, as well as to prevent their receiving any material advantage from this inſtance of their duty.

Sir William was oppoſed by Mr Foljambe, who ſtated, that in the county of York, for inſtance, ſome of theſe poor electors had above 70 miles to come, in which caſe it could not be expected they would be able to defray the expence of ſuch a journey.

Several other members ſpoke, after which the report was committed, and the Houſe adjourned.

*Monday, March* 22.

THE Speaker having announced 2,350,992 l. 9 d. as the whole of the ſum granted in the committee of ſupply, moved for leave to quit the chair,

Sir *Grey Cooper* reprobated the idea of giving away the public treaſure by millions, when the country was not only weakened by the pecuniary drains which had been already made, but alſo convulſed by the want of an able and efficient miniſtry to direct her councils. He ſhowed that the ſupplies already granted this ſeſſion amounted to more than *ten millions ſterling*.

Mr *Harriſon* agreed with the hon. baronet, that the preſent was not a proper time for being laviſh with the public money. But there was another reaſon which made him wiſh to withhold the ſupplies for a time, which was the general report of a diſſolution of Parliament. He did not think the Chancellor of the Exchequer could be ſo ignorant as not to know that it was unuſual for Parliament to be diſſolved before the ſupplies granted had been appropriated. He dreaded the approach of a diſſolution; and affirmed, that no event could take place which was likely to render the preſent miniſtry more unpopular.

Lord *North* humorouſly ſaid, that he had not the leaſt apprehenſion of a diſſolution.

The Houſe then went into a committee, in which

The *Secretary at War* ſtated the purpoſes to which the above ſums were to be applied.

Col *Onſlow* expreſſed himſelf very unwillingly to conſent to the requiſition, as he did not ſee it was to be applied to any object of ſufficient importance. The militia had very un-

wiſely been allowed to remain inactive for one year: To prevent ſuch a ruinous plan from being put into execution, he would not have ſcrupled to grant two millions of money: To moſt other military purpoſes it was unneceſſary and ſuperfluous. He adverted in a very particular manner to the ſtate of our garriſon at Gibraltar: Every ſhilling laid out on that fort he looked upon to be thrown away. At the approach of another war we might have no *Howe* to conduct our fleet, and there might be no ſtorm to diſperſe that of our enemies. The moſt valuable commodities that flowed into our ports from that quarter were white wine and pig-nuts.—Gibraltar had coſt Great Britain upwards of 50 millions Sterling.

*General Smith* ſtarted ſome difficulties reſpecting the payment of the Eaſt India Company's troops.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* ſolved all thoſe.

Mr *Huſſey* ſaid he did not object to granting the ſupply, as fearing that his objection would go but a ſhort way to influence the Houſe. He was exceedingly anxious, however, with reſpect to the diſſolution of parliament; and though he had no reaſon to think that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would anſwer fully a queſtion he was to put, yet he would put one; accordingly, he aſked Mr Pitt, *Whether Parliament would be diſſolved before Friday or no?*

Mr *Pitt* replied, that he did not know what his Majeſty's council might adviſe him to do before that day. As for himſelf, he would be forward to give ſuch advice in proportion only as he ſhould deem it conducive to the public good.

Mr *Luſhington*, Lord *North*, &c. ſpoke. The ſum of 2,360,992 l. 0 s. 9 d. was then voted for defraying the extraordinary expences of the army.

Lord Mahon's bill for preventing bribery and corruption at elections was then read for the third time, and after receiving the opinions and amendments of Sir Joſeph Mawbey, Sir Watkin Lewes, Sir M. W. Ridley, Capt. Luttrel, Mr Mansfield and others, the Houſe divided, when there appeared for paſſing the bill, ayes 45, noes, 38, majority 7.

Adjourned.

*Tueſday, March 23.*

*MR EDEN* made a report from the committee appointed to conſider of the laws anent ſmuggling; which was ordered to be printed.

The report of the extraordinaries of the army being then brought up, *Mr Eden* roſe and obſerved, how very diſagreeable it was for him to find himſelf engaged in a buſineſs which, by the preſent general apprehenſion of a diſſolution, could not proceed with any degree of diſpatch or effect. He could not, however, preſs the right hon. gentleman to deviate from that line of conduct which he had chalked out to himſelf. It might, for aught he knew, be his intention to reſerve the whole of his defence to another tribunal; and he was not prepared to ſay whether he was right in doing ſo or not. He would only ſay that he felt himſelf not at all eaſy when he conſidered the circumſtances of the country. Whichever way he turned his view, the preſſure increaſed. There were, however, two things that demanded more immediate attention. The revenue committee, who had laboured on that buſineſs with great aſſiduity and ſucceſs, had proceeded ſo far as to be ready with another report in a few days.—But the ſituation of the Miniſter and the Houſe was ſo delicate, that it was no longer proper to aſk any queſtions; otherwiſe, it was of much conſequence to know whether time would be allowed to finiſh a buſineſs which they had ſo nearly concluded. The other matter he wiſhed to mention was the Eaſt India buſineſs. The right hon.

gentleman had ſaid, that one moment on this buſineſs ought not to be loſt; yet, in the event of a diſſolution, two months are to be added to the time already waſted in it. He could not help once more appriſing gentlemen of the ſituation of the Houſe in regard to theſe points; and whatever ſhould take place, it would at leaſt be ſome ſatisfaction to him that he had done his duty.

*Lord North* ſaid he thought, and aſſerted pretty openly yeſterday, that there could be no intention of diſſolving the Parliament. His reaſons for entertaining that opinion were pretty well known, but he would now beg leave to mention them. One of theſe was, that it was a meaſure for which there was no neceſſity. He aſked on what public ground it could be juſtified? When the ſame thing was apprehended and talked of ſome weeks ago, there was an appearance of a diſagreement between the two Houſes; and to do the other Houſe juſtice, ſaid his Lordſhip, it was not their fault that there was none. That obſtacle to public buſineſs, however, was now compleatly removed. Complaints had alſo been made of a procraſtinating ſyſtem in the Houſe of Commons: Delays in the public buſineſs certainly had happened; but for theſe he would leave the author of them to anſwer: None of thoſe delays originated with him, or with thoſe with whom he acted. If any ſuch ſyſtem had ſtill any exiſtence, the Miniſter knew more of it than he did, and with him he would leave it, being perfectly convinced in his own mind that there was not an individual on his ſide of the Houſe who poſſeſſed the leaſt inclination to obſtruct the progreſs of the public buſineſs by any means whatever. Without ſo much as one ſubſtantial reaſon for a diſſolution, he could not, therefore, ſuppoſe it poſſible, much leſs when he conſidered how many were againſt it. All the money that had been voted was ſtill unprovided for, and he could not imagine any ſet of men capable of acting ſuch a farce with the Houſe of Commons, as to put them from time to time on voting money about which they gave themſelves no further concern. Not to mention a great variety of other preſſing circumſtances, this alone ſeemed ſo urgent, that he declared it almoſt impoſſible to believe any other than his Majeſty's Miniſters capable of entertaining ſuch an idea. It was, to be ſure, not eaſy to ſay what they would not do; but to do ſuch a thing as this, in the preſumption of an act of indemnity, was a degree of temerity of which he ſtill could hardly think them capable: Nor could an act of this kind take place without giving, in his opinion, a mortal blow to the conſtitution. He truſted no Parliament would ever go ſo far, and if they did, there was an end to the dignity and conſtitutional importance of that Houſe. All theſe things taken together operated on his mind againſt any apprehenſions of a diſſolution at this time.

Mr Pitt remaining ſilent, *General Conway* ſaid he had no opinion that the Miniſter who could regard what had been juſt ſaid with ſo ſignificant a ſilence, could pay the leaſt attention to what he ſhould now ſuggeſt. That impenetrable myſtery which marked the preſent Miniſters was not to be diſturbed by any thing which could fall from him. He had only, therefore, to aſk one queſtion in regard to his own profeſſion. A deduction from the ordnance eſtimates had been made to ſuch an extent, as would effectually prevent any care of the ſeveral docks and other places of ſtrength, which all men deemed indiſpenſible. The noble Duke at the head of that department had got the right hon. gentleman to promiſe a reviſal of that buſineſs. With this view a committee had been appointed to inveſtigate the matter, and that committee, he believed, conſiſted of all the abilities in that line which the country could produce. This, however, in caſe of

a diſſolution, would be abſolutely unneceſſary. The predicament to which the whole of thoſe concerned in this matter would be reduced by a diſſolution, was abſurd and ridiculous in the higheſt degree. He would not, therefore, aſk any queſtions about it, but he appealed to the Houſe, whether any thing could be a greater farce than thus countenancing every ſort of buſineſs, as a mere covert to a ſyſtem which would effectually put a ſtop to all. Much had been ſaid about delaying the public buſineſs, but there was now an evident intention of abandoning it for above two months. For notwithſtanding what had fallen from the noble Lord in the blue ribbon, every body without as well as within doors no longer doubted that an immediate diſſolution was moſt certainly intended.

After an interval of a few minutes, *Lord North* got up again, and ſaid he was not a little ſurpriſed at the ſyſtematic ſilence adopted by the ſervants of the Crown. He ſuppoſed they reſerved all their replies for the new parliament which they had in contemplation. They now had one in which queſtions might be put, and would ſoon have another in which anſwers would be given. Notwithſtanding this diſcouraging circumſtance, he would yet venture to aſk by what law or principle in the conſtitution the army could be paid without an appropriating act. He did not expect any anſwer to this queſtion, but apprehended there was great danger that thoſe in this department might act illegally. He only appriſed them, therefore, of their danger, and truſted that no other motive would be attributed to the hint he had given him.

The queſtion being then put on the report, it paſſed unanimouſly.—Adjourned.

*Wedneſday, March* 24.

PREVIOUS to his Majeſty's coming, paſſed Grubb's eſtate bill, the Duke of Bolton's eſtate bill, and the Biſhop of Norwich's bill; thoſe bills had paſſed the Lords, and were returned, and received the royal aſſent.

Alſo received and read a petition from Allan Stewart; ordered to lie on the table.

*Mr Jervoiſe* reported from the committee on the victualling enquiry; the report was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker took the chair before two o'clock, and a little before three the Uſher of the Black Rod ſummoned the Commons to attend his Majeſty in the Houſe of Peers.

*General Smith* obſerved, that as he then ſaw the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his place, and probably ſhould not ſee him there again in the preſent parliament, he would take that opportunity to remind him that there was now on the table a petition from the creditors of the Nabob of Arcot, praying relief. The ſum due to them was nearly equal to the capital ſtock of the Eaſt India Company; it was not ſhort of 3,000,000l. ſterling. Probably his Majeſty's Miniſters would adopt ſome deciſive meaſures relative to India before the next ſeſſions; he therefore begged the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not forget the petition of the Nabob's creditors; but that he would take ſome effectual ſtep towards procuring them relief.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was mute. In a few minutes after the General ſat down, Black Rod made his appearance; and the Speaker, attended by the Members, went up to the Houſe of Peers.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

*Wedneſday, March* 24.

HIS Majeſty came in the uſual ſtate to the Houſe, attended by his Grace the Duke of Montague, Maſter of the Horſe, and Lord Boſton, Lord

in waiting: Being ſeated on the throne, the Commons were ſent for, and being come with the Speaker, his Majeſty gave the royal aſſent to the following bills:

The bill for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion, and for the better payment of the army and their quarters.

The bill for the regulation of marine forces while on ſhore, and for the ſpeedy and effectual manning of his Majeſty's navy.

The bill for adding additional names to the commiſſioners of the land-tax act.

The American trade bill.

The linen bounty bill.

The militia bill.

The convicts bill.

The iſle of Wight regulation bill.

The bill for allowing further time for the inrolment of deeds and wills made by Papiſts.

Neſbitt's divorce bill.

The Newhaven bridge bill; and ſeveral road, incloſure, and other bills.

After which his Majeſty made the following moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"ON a full conſideration of the preſent ſituation of affairs, and of the extraordinary circumſtances which have produced it, I am induced to put an end to this ſeſſion of parliament: I feel it a duty which I owe to the conſtitution and to the country in ſuch a ſituation, to recur as ſpeedily as poſſible to the ſenſe of my people, by calling a new parliament.

"I truſt that this meaſure will tend to obviate the miſchiefs ariſing from the unhappy diviſions and diſtractions which have lately ſubſiſted; and that the various important objects which will require conſideration may be afterwards proceeded upon with leſs interruption and with happier effect.

"I can have no other object but to preſerve the true principles of our free and happy conſtitution, and to employ the powers entruſted to me by law, for the only end for which they were given, the good of my people."

Then the Earl of Mansfield, Lord Chief Juſtice of the Court of King's Bench, Speaker of the Houſe of Lords, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"It is Majeſty's Royal will and pleaſure, that this parliament be prorogued to Tueſday the 6th day of April next, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tueſday the 6th day of April next.

## *IRISH PARLIAMENT.*

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*Friday, April 2.*

### Protecting Duties.

THE order of the day for receiving the report of the committee on the manufactures being read,

*Mr Gardiner* roſe. Sir, I am ſorry to ſee the Houſe ſo extremely thin as it at preſent is, when a matter of ſo great importance is to come before you. It was my inclination to have brought the buſineſs forward much earlier in the ſeſſions; but it has been delayed until now, contrary to my intention, becauſe I knew that numbers of gentlemen would be at this period of the year obliged to attend their different counties;—I ſay this much, Sir, merely to take off any blame from myſelf, if upon a diviſion there ſhall appear to be fewer members preſent than might be expected on ſuch an occaſion. Indeed, Sir, I ought to apologize for entering upon this buſineſs myſelf, ſo little able to give a proper deſcription to my ideas; but I truſt for the indulgence and the aſſiſtance of gentlemen who have more experience than I have; I ſhall be able perhaps to furniſh ſome rude materials; I leave to them to finiſh with effect.

Sir, the motion I intend to make is not a motion of oppoſition; ever ſince I had a ſeat in parliament it has never been my practice to bring on motions in order to embarraſs adminiſtration. But, Sir, at the ſame time that I hold it the duty of every member of parliament to ſupport the government in what is neceſſary and right, I look upon it to be alſo his duty to ſpeak to them what they ought to do. This, Sir, is not a meaſure originating in any improper place, or backed by any improper proceedings. The people have come to you in a proper and becoming manner with all humility; why, then, Sir, this not being a meaſure of oppoſition or faction, what is it? It is a meaſure of neceſſity. The famiſhing, the miſerable ſituation of this country muſt be ſhocking to every man of humanity. Let us, Sir, for a moment contraſt their condition with thoſe of the people of England.

The people of England, Sir, may be ſaid in the ſcripture phraſe to be the land—the hills and vallies ſing with joy. Sir, I never go into that kingdom but I feel myſelf elated when I look around me; the people well lodged, well clothed, well fed; but I own, Sir, I feel a depreſſion when I reflect upon the miſerable fellow-creatures I have left behind me. Why, Sir, it is true you have people to tend your flocks, but they cannot touch the meat they help to guard. As to raiment they have ſcarcely any; and as for their houſes, I declare I do not think an Engliſhman would ſuffer his beaſt to lie in ſuch hovels. When, Sir, we thus view the different ſituations of the people in theſe two countries, it is natural for us to enquire into the cauſe of this difference. Are Iriſhmen leſs capable by nature of earning themſelves a livelihood than the people of England? Are their conſtitutions worſe, or their appetites greater? Is there any diſadvantage in the nature of our climate, or the ſituation of our country, ſuch as prevents our proſperity? As to the firſt point, no men I believe on earth are more active or better qualified for labour than the people of Ireland; no men can bear hardſhips better, or can be contented with leſs ſubſiſtence.—As to our climate, it is the moſt temperate we could deſire; and our country by ſituation is well adapted for the general mart of Europe.

I know, Sir, gentlemen will ſay the evil ariſes from the profligate idle habits of the people, and their intolerable drunkenneſs, for indeed I have found the people of this country more apt to cenſure their fellow countrymen than thoſe of any other nation I ever met with; but, Sir, thoſe general aſſertions are ever falſe; tho' one man may be idle, another is induſtrious; though one man may be drunken, another will be ſober; and therefore, Sir, I ſay that it is not fair to argue thus.—No man reprobates the intoxication which is occaſioned by the conſtant uſe of ſpirits more than I do; but, Sir, though I wiſh that evil was remedied, I can by no means admit that it is the ſole cauſe of our calamities. But, Sir, what proves it to demonſtration is, that there never was any branch of manufacture in which they were encouraged that they have not brought to excellence; our linens—our board ſtuffs, tabinets, and poplins—our agriculture; and therefore, Sir, it is plain that the diſtreſſes under which they labour do not proceed from a want of genius in them, nor from indolence, but from want of encouragement; and gentlemen who boaſt of the North, and complain of drunkenneſs in other parts, do an injury to the reſt of the kingdom which they have not a right to do; for it is well known that the people in the North drink as much whiſky as thoſe of any other country; and I have ſome tenants myſelf who have told me they could drink half a pint of ſpirits with as much indifference as

a gentleman could take a glaſs of wine. —If then the evil does not ariſe from any of theſe, to what cauſes is it to be attributed?—to the vaſt importation of foreign articles, by which a home conſumption is denied to our manufacture—and there are many things which contribute to favour this importation—Firſt, Sir, the greatneſs of the capital of the Britiſh merchant. It is evident that a man with a large capital is infinitely ſuperior, and can ſell infinitely cheaper than a man who has but a ſmall one; for inſtance, eight per cent. will be greater to the perſon who has ten thouſand pounds in trade, than ten per cent. to him who has but one—then, Sir, there is the length of credit; the Britiſh dealer can give two years' credit, the Iriſh manufacturer only ſix months—Why, it is natural for the retailer to purchaſe on the longer credit, becauſe he has a year and three months credit on his money.

Then, Sir, faſhion, though it may appear at firſt as a trivial matter, has a very great effect on our trade; and for this reaſon, whatever is the faſhion the manufacturer has a home conſumption for, and ſells at an enormous advanced profit, for ready money; as ſoon as the faſhion alters, he has made ſo much by it that he can ſend over the redundancy here, and ſell it at firſt coſt, or conſiderably under the firſt coſt, and ſtill be a gainer; and therefore, though ſome perſons here have ſent to England and got patterns of the faſhionable articles, yet, before the patterns could be procured, the dies prepared, and the manufacture wrought, the Engliſh merchant would have varied his faſhion there, and ſent the redundancy over to us, and underſell us ſo as to deſtroy our hopes.

Now, Sir, what have been the remedies which we have endeavoured to provide?—a non-importation agreement, that while it laſted had ſome effect, but it was but temporary; the benefit ariſing from it was but for a ſeaſon, and I fear it has eſtabliſhed a permanent evil; for, Sir, it was by no means general, and the people, particularly in the north, who were not ſo much injured by importation, eſtabliſhed warehouſes, opened their ports, and laid in ſuch a quantity of Engliſh goods, as poured an inundation upon us the moment the agreement was at an end.

Another expedient was eſtabliſhing manufactories here; but, Sir, theſe have ended generally in the ruin of thoſe who attempted it, for the Engliſh riders immediately give notice to their employers when a manufactory is going to be ſet up; the conſequence is, the Britiſh merchant reſolves to loſe for a time, ſends over an abundance of the commodity, ſells it cheaper than it can poſſibly be wrought, and totally overthrows his rival. Sir, I remember an inſtance of this in England itſelf; there was a houſe in Norwich carried on a conſiderable trade in one branch of buſineſs—another finding it ſo profitable, determined to undertake it alſo; but the owners of the firſt houſe determined to loſe 20,000 l. a-year, and underſell the new one; the latter conſequently failed in a ſhort time, and the buſineſs returned to its ancient channel. This ſhews, Sir, that the Engliſh merchant will always be an overmatch for any manufactory we ſet up, which can any way injure him. Now, Sir, another expedient was opening our export trade, and, Sir, I never ſhall arraign that meaſure—it was conducted by gentlemen whoſe memory I ſhall ever revere, and whom I never think of without emotions which I cannot expreſs; but, Sir, an export trade is beginning at the wrong end; unleſs there is a home conſumption it will never avail.

The home conſumption is what gives money and ſpirit to the undertaker; without money he cannot pay the men whom he employs, and that

money is only to be had by home conſumption. Seeing then the remedies that have been applied are ineffectual, let us now ſee what may be ſucceſsful, and in this let us copy the conduct of England, of France, and other commercial countries; and that is, by protecting our manufactures at home.

I confeſs I have a ſtrong prejudice in favour of this meaſure, as the only one that can relieve the diſtreſs and wretchedneſs of the people. If I can convince the Houſe of it, I have no doubt of ſucceſs; as to the diſtreſs of the people, the fact is too notorious to require proofs. But it is not Dublin alone whoſe manufacturers are diſtreſſed; Corke, Limerick, Waterford, and every other manufacturing town are equally ſo: Nor is it the manufacturers of woollens, but alſo thoſe of cottons and kentings.

I mean to ground my arguments by contraſting the ſyſtems of Great Britain and Ireland, reſpecting the manufactures of foreign countries.

Woollens are no doubt the ſtaple of this kingdom, as well as England; and that it was always conſidered as ſuch, the beſt hiſtory of commerce aſſures us of, as it appears that in the reign of Edward III. there was a conſiderable export of woollens from Ireland, from which time, until 1698, we enjoyed, under Magna Charta, every advantage of a free trade, and were included in every commercial benefit with Great Britain. In 1639, our exports were double the imports, and the ſhipping increaſed double its quantity in the ten years preceding.

In the year 1677 the quantity of woollens exported from Ireland, after ſupplying in full the home conſumption, amounted to 70,521 l. and in that year the balance of trade in favour of Ireland was 419,000 l.—a moſt enormous ſum, when the value of money at that time with this is comparatively conſidered.

In 1698, the unjuſt reſtriction was laid on our woollens, from which the moſt fatal conſequences happened to England as well as to Ireland; the manufacturers for want of employment went from hence to France, and not only eſtabliſhed them there, but they continue to be ſmuggled from this kingdom ever ſince.

I am bold to ſay, Britain loſt America by oppreſſing Ireland; for Iriſh emigrants formed the beſt part of the American army, and the Iriſh language was ſpoken in the ranks.—We got a free trade in 1779, but how can we ever expect to export an article with which we cannot furniſh our home conſumption?—Before England protected her manufactures, the balance of trade was againſt her 139,000l. a-year, and the imports from France were annually computed at 1,500,000l. and afterwards, in Sir William Davenant's time, inſtead of importing, the export from England of woollens amounted to 5,000,000 l. the woollens made for home conſumption 6,000,000 l. amounting together to 11,000,000 l. which alone has ſince raiſed Britain to the pinnacle of greatneſs ſhe roſe to in 1763; and even after the laſt unſucceſsful war, we ſee her great, feared, and reſpected, with a debt of 240,000,000 l. to ſupport a grandeur no nation ſince the Romans has arrived at.

Gentlemen fear for the linen manufacture, but, Sir, I do not. England will never reſtrain our linens, becauſe ſhe cannot ſupply her home conſumption of herſelf, and ſhe can get none ſo cheap or ſo good as ſhe can get from us—but if ſhe did, we ſhould find ſome other market, and perhaps ſhe only would be a loſer in the change.

Mr Gardiner afterwards read the following reſolutions:

Firſt, That many of the trading people of this kingdom were in the greateſt calamity and diſtreſs.

Secondly, That the importation of foreign articles into this kingdom had conſiderably increaſed for a ſeries of years, and ſtill continued to do ſo.

Thirdly, That it was neceſſary for

Parliament to interfere and alleviate the preſent diſtreſſes of the people.

He then propoſed the firſt reſolution.

*Mr Hartley* ſeconded the motion, and followed Mr Gardiner, whom he thanked in the name of his conſtituents; after which he gave a hiſtory of the trade between Great Britain and Ireland.

*Mr Foſter* moved, that the Houſe do immediately reſolve into a committee of ways and means to take the whole report into conſideration.

The queſtion on the amendment being put, there appeared, ayes 110, noes 36.

*Mr Gardiner* then, in the Committee, moved a reſolution ſimilar to the above, which, on a diviſion, was alſo loſt, 223 to 37.—Thus the important queſtion of *protecting duties* has ſhared the ſame fate with that of a *reform*.*

*Monday, April* 5.

MR *FOSTER* acquainted the Speaker, that two men had been taken into cuſtody this day, being part of a riotous mob who had forced into the Houſe and Gallery, and there behaved in a moſt outrageous and inſulting manner to the Members, threatening their lives, and calling to them for part of the money which they alledged had been given to them as bribes from England, to vote againſt the Protecting Duties: and moved, that the two men, Richard Barns and John Cathman, be brought to the bar; which being done accordingly, and making no defence, they were, on the motion of Mr Foſter, ordered to Newgate.

Ordered, that an humble addreſs be preſented to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, that he would be pleaſed to order his Majeſty's Attorney General to proſecute thoſe men for the ſaid riot and outrage.

Mr *Marcus Beresford* gave the Houſe further particulars of the diſturbance in the gallery, and made ſome obſervations on the unwillingneſs of the magiſtrates to apprehend the rioters.

Mr *Foſter* moved, that a Committee be appointed to enquire into the conduct of the magiſtrates of the city of Dublin.

Sir *Edward Newenham* ſaid, he could not agree to ſuch a motion, as it implied a cenſure upon a very reſpectable body of men, without any explicit charge being made againſt them; ſome Gentlemen, he obſerved, took every opportunity to revile and abuſe the Aldermen of this city, but he was confident they were as active and as honeſt magiſtrates as any in the kingdom.

Mr *Foſter* then produced a newſpaper publiſhed this day, called the Volunteers Journal; in which was portrayed a perſon hanging in effigy, and under it inflammatory and libellous paragraphs; which being read by the Clerk, Mr Foſter moved, That the ſaid paper is an infamous and ſeditious libel, tending to alienate and ſow diſaffection between Great Britain and this kingdom, diſreſpectful to government, and dangerous to the lives and properties of his Majeſty's ſubjects, &c. and that P. Donelly the printer, and W. Bingley the publiſher, be forthwith brought to the bar in cuſtody of the Serjeant at Arms. Reſolved and ordered accordingly.

Alderman *Warren* preſented a petition from the aggregate meeting of the Freemen and Freeholders duly aſſembled this day, praying relief, and to be heard by counſel againſt the bill pending in parliament for the better cleanſing, paving, and lighting, the ſtreets of Dublin.

A converſation enſued, in which Sir John Blaquiere and others intimated, that the mob which had broke into the Houſe this day, had been brought together by the meeting of

[* The queſtion for a reform in the Iriſh Parliament was rejected by a great majority on the 20th of March.]

the aggregate body, and a ſeditious advertiſement publiſhed yeſterday; after which the petition was received, read, and referred to the Committee on the bill

The *Serjeant at Arms* acquainted the Houſe that the meſſengers, who were ſent to apprehend the Printer and Publiſher of the Volunteers Journal, had returned, not being able to find them.

Mr *Foſter* then moved, That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, that he will offer a reward for apprehending the Printer, Publiſher, and Writers of the Libel read this day.—Ordered accordingly.

The Houſe adjourned to next day.

*Tueſday, April 6.*

MR *FOSTER* ſaid, that ſince the proceedings in the Houſe yeſterday, reſpecting the libellous papers, two other publications of a ſimilar nature had appeared, one in the Evening Chronicle, printed by F. Roſs; and the other in the Freeman's Journal, printed alſo by F. Roſs; for which reaſon he moved like reſolutions to thoſe of yeſterday, namely, that the Serjeant at Arms bring F. Roſs in cuſtody to the bar. Ordered accordingly.

Mr Foſter then reported from the Committee appointed to take into conſideration the conduct of the magiſtrates yeſterday, that they had come to the following reſolutions:

"That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor received a notice at nine o'clock on Monday morning, from Secretary Orde, that riots were intended, and ſaw a hand-bill inciting tumultuous riſings."

"Reſolved, that notwithſtanding, he did not take any ſtep to prevent the tumultuous riſings on Monday laſt."

"Reſolved, That the ſaid Lord Mayor has not taken any ſtep to prevent the tumultuous riſings on Monday laſt."

"Reſolved, That the ſaid Lord Mayor has not acted with the caution and prudence that became a Chief Magiſtrate."

The *Prime Serjeant* moved, that the name of Thomas Green be interted after the words "Lord Mayor," which being agreed to, the firſt and laſt reſolutions were carried without a diviſion; on the ſecond there was, when there appeared,

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ayes | — | — | 35 |
| Noes | — | — | 7 |
| Majority | | | 28 |

*Wedneſday, April 7.*

THE Right Hon. *John Foſter* ſaid, he had full and ſufficient evidence, that the paper entitled the Volunteers Journal is the property of Matthew Carey, and publiſhed by him. He therefore moved, that Matthew Carey be brought to the bar, in cuſtody of the ſerjeant at arms.

The Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee on the Dublin paving bill, and went throught he ſame with various amendments.

The *Recorder* reprobated the whole bill, as a ſyſtem of unexampled tyranny and oppreſſion. It placed, he ſaid, in the hands of a ſet of low perſons (for commiſſioners acting for 150l. a-year could be no other) a power to fine and torment, with all the inſolence of authority, every citizen of Dublin. It gave them power to raiſe taxes, and to borrow money; to ſummon whomſoever they thought proper before their tribunal, and, upon neglect or diſobedience, to impoſe a fine of forty ſhillings. By this inquſitorial act, the father would be compelled to give evidence againſt the ſon, and the ſon againſt the father,

before that honourable board. The principle of the bill, he ſaid, was utterly repugnant to law and conſtitution, and though Sir John propoſed admitting any reaſonable amendment, he rejected the whole as incapable of being modelled to the public benefit.

Sir *John Blaquiere* maintained that this bill was infinitely leſs oppreſſive than that which the city had produced; it did not, in the firſt place, raiſe ſo great a tax upon the inhabitants of Dublin. It did not apply, as the city bill did, any part of the tax raiſed to diſcharge the enormous debt of 36,000 l. ſo improperly incurred by the corporation, but applied the whole produce of the tax to paving, lighting, and cleanſing of the ſtreets. As to the fine of forty ſhillings for neglecting to attend the ſummons of the board, Sir John thought it abſolutely neceſſary, as experience had ſhown that leſs would not enforce obedience; and as to the power which the bill intended to give to the officers of the board, to levy a fine on perſons neglecting to cleanſe before their houſes, what was it to levy one ſhilling? Yet this was deſcribed as ſtriking at the root of liberty—This was the bugbear. Our liberty is in danger, becauſe the officer of the board is empowered to levy one ſhilling; and our rights are deſtroyed, becauſe our dirt is removed.—Theſe are crying grievances indeed, and he hoped the ſpirit of the aggregate body would not ſubmit to them.

A clauſe was introduced by Mr *Gardiner* to cloſe the New Gardens with iron palliſadoes, at the deſire and expence of the perſons whoſe houſes overlook that ground.

The Speaker having taken the chair, the committee reported.

Mr *Hartley* reported, from the committee appointed to enqire into the ſtate of the Houſe of Induſtry, that there were at preſent from thirteen to fourteen hundred poor perſons maintained in that houſe; that the governors had not a ſufficient fund to ſupport them another week; and therefore he moved, that an addreſs ſhould be preſented to his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, requeſting he ſhould lay before his Majeſty the humble deſire of the Houſe, that his Majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed to order the ſum of 5000 l. to be paid to the Governors of the Houſe of Induſtry for the benefit of that charity, and that the Commons would make good the ſame.

The ſerjeant at arms reported, that in obedience to the order of the Houſe, he had gone to the place in Abbey-ſtreet, where he was informed Mr Carey, the printer of the Volunteers Journal, was to be found, and that he there ſaw him, but that he had effected his eſcape.

Mr *Foſter* moved, that an addreſs be preſented to the Lord Lieutenant, requeſting that he will pleaſe to iſſue his proclamation, offering a reward for apprehending Matthew Carey.

The publiſher of the Freeman's Journal was then examined at the bar, he ſaid, that the direction and ſuperintendence of the publications was in a committee that he could not name; and that the journeymen had, as was uſual, copied the Dublin paragraphs from the papers of Monday, and in particular had copied the paragraphs that had fallen under the diſpleaſure of the Houſe from the Volunteers Journal, and other papers; and when they took that copy, he did not know the Houſe had ſignified its diſpleaſure.

The publiſher was diſcharged, and the Houſe adjourned to the next day.

*Thurſday, April* 8.

READ a ſecond time the bill to reſtrict the bounty on the exportation of linens to ſuch veſſels only as are rigged with Iriſh ſail-cloth.

Mr *Hewit* moved, that the order

for the attendance of the Belfaſt printers be diſcharged, and Robert Joy, ſen. be diſpenſed from his attendance the 26th inſtant. Ordered accordingly.

Mr *Foſter* preſented "A bill to ſecure the liberty of the preſs, by preventing the publication of falſe, ſeditious, and ſlanderous libels." He mentioned the proviſions of the bill, which were, that the name of the real printer and proprietor of every newſpaper be entered upon oath at the Stamp office, and the printer enter into a cognizance of 500 l. to anſwer all civil ſuits that may be inſtituted againſt him for publication, and that, under a penalty, no money be received by them, or any perſon for them, for inſerting, or on the pretence of leaving out, any ſlanderous publications."

The bill was read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond on Saturday next.

The Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee on the bill for the appropriation of the 15,000 l. granted for the encouragement of manufactures, Mr William Foſter in the chair

Committee reported, and the Houſe adjourned.

## AMERICAN STATE PAPERS.

*GOVERNOR CLINTON's firſt Speech to the Aſſembly of* New-York, *after the Evacuation of that City by the Britiſh Forces.*

*Gentlemen of the Senate, and Aſſembly.*

IT is not without much regret that I have been prevented from aſſembling you at an earlier period.—The dilatory movements of the Britiſh forces, ſubſequent to the proviſional articles, and the meaſures preparatory to the late elections, have deprived me of the pleaſure of congratulating you more ſeaſonably on the great and important events which have taken place ſince the laſt ſeſſions, and they have deprived the State of your aid in many affairs, which earneſtly demanded a legiſlative proviſion.

By the favour of Divine Providence the ſeal is put to our independence, our liberties are eſtabliſhed on the firmeſt baſis, and freedom in this diſtrict ſeems to derive additional luſtre from the objects which remind us of the deſpotiſm that ſo lately prevailed. While we recollect the general progreſs of a war, which has been marked with cruelty and rapine; while we ſurvey the ruins of this once flouriſhing city and its vicinity; while we ſympathiſe in the calamities which have reduced ſo many of our fellow-citizens to want and diſtreſs, and are anxiouſly ſolicitous for means to repair the waſtes and misfortunes which we lament; how ought our hearts to overflow with love and gratitude to our adorable Creator, through whoſe gracious interpoſition bounds have been ſet, and probably for ever, to ſuch ſcenes of horror and devaſtation!

Permit me to number with the pleaſing events, which call for our praiſe, the attention of thoſe patriots, both citizens and ſoldiers, who have re-entered this city, to the honour and dignity of government. By their obedience to the laws, and their care to preſerve peace and good order, they have diſappointed the wiſhes of our enemies, and convinced the world, by their moderation in proſperity and fortitude in adverſity, that they merit the prize for which they have ſo nobly contended.

Viewing, as I truſt you will, the bleſſings we now enjoy, as effects flowing from our union, you cannot but be attentive to every meaſure which has a tendency to cement it, and give that energy to our national councils which may be neceſſary to the general welfare.

In this confidence, I now lay be-

fore you ſuch acts of Congreſs as have been received in the receſs of the legiſlature. As the addreſs of Congreſs which accompanies thoſe acts, enters fully into the reaſoning on the meaſures they recommend, I ſhall, without enlarging, ſubmit them to your ſerious conſideration, with this ſingle remark, that though fear may ſupport a deſpotiſm, and an hereditary nobility uphold the throne of a limited monarch, nothing but good faith and public virtue can give authority or credit to a free republic.—Theſe ſentiments, and others highly worthy the attention of a free people, are ſtrongly enforced in the laſt circular letter of our patriotic and illuſtrious Commander in Chief: A performance which I communicate with great ſatisfaction; confident that it is derived from ſo high an authority, is executed with ſuch wiſdom and perſpicuity, and enforced with ſuch affectionate zeal for our national honour and intereſts, that it cannot fail of making deep impreſſion, and of meeting with the moſt reſpectful notice.

Among other national objects, which the papers I ſhall now deliver you will point out for your conſideration, are the arrears due to thoſe of our fellow-citizens, whoſe arms have ſo eſſentially contributed to the independence and ſecurity we enjoy; and it is with pleaſure I embrace this occaſion to do the line of this State the juſtice to obſerve, that, from the moment of their being diſbanded to this hour, not one among them has, to my knowledge, been accuſed of miſconduct or a violation of the laws. Their wants have not forced them into the commiſſion of injuries, nor have their arms rendered them forgetful that they were citizens. Such citizens have a double claim to your patronage and protection.

With the matters of ſuperior moment which at this time call for your ſerious examination, is an attempt of the Britiſh Court, by a proclamation of July laſt, to monopolize to themſelves the trade of the United States with the Weſt Indies, by reſtricting the importation of American produce into thoſe iſlands to Britiſh veſſels only, and the exportation of Weſt India produce into theſe States to veſſels of the ſame deſcription. It is exceedingly difficult to hold any intercourſe with a nation that will not ſuffer her commerce with other States to be governed by principles of equality and reciprocity; but that ſuch a ſpirit of monopoly ſhould prevail in the ſeller (for Britain as a commercial nation abounding in manufactures, is principally to be viewed in this light), and be arbitrarily held out to the buyer, who has his choice of markets, is as inconſiſtent with the intereſt of trade, as it muſt be odious and diſguſtful to thoſe whom it is intended to enſnare or depreſs. Permit me to obſerve, that one effect which the proclamation alluded to has a tendency to produce, is that of throwing the trade, heretofore mutually carried on between the inhabitants of America and thoſe of the Weſt Indies, into the hands of perſons ſtiling themſelves, or acting among us, in the diſguiſe of Britiſh ſubjects; to the great diſhonour of the American flag, the injury of the fair trader and real citizen, and the diminution and corruption of national character. There is conſiderable ground to apprehend that the conduct of the Britiſh Court, in this inſtance, is founded on a preſumption that the confederated power of the United States is not adequate to prevent the innovation. It becomes therefore our intereſt and our duty to undeceive them; and, if the powers given by the confederation are not competent for this purpoſe, to enlarge them; for it is obvious that any partial exertions of the States, individually, to correct this evil, will prove ineffectual.

While I am on the ſubject of com-

merce, permit me, gentlemen, to call your attention to the earlieſt and moſt effectual means for reſtoring and improving that of this State. Our ports ſo long withheld from us, are at length open to all the world. Let us give to all protection, encouragement, and ſecurity, by providing that equal juſtice be adminiſtered to the ſtranger as well as to the citizen, that the recovery of debts be ſpeedy and effectual, that the fulfilment of contracts be enforced, that our ſtaples be ſo inſpected as to prevent future impoſition, and effectually to revive their reputation in foreign ports, where, for want of ſufficient care, it has been greatly impaired. By theſe means, credit, the parent of commerce, will multiply her benefits, and ſecurity from impoſitions add to the value of our commodities; while the ſtranger it invites will reduce the price of thoſe we get from abroad.

The eſtabliſhment of productive funds for the diſcharge of the intereſt, and for ſinking, as ſoon as may be practicable, the principal of the public debts, is an object of ſo much moment, and which ſo eſſentially involves the proſperity of our citizens and the honour of government, that it cannot fail of claiming the moſt attentive conſideration. Among the means that preſent themſelves for making this proviſion beyond direct taxation, are the diſpoſition of public lands, internal duties and exciſes, marine paſſes, and a duty on ſales at vendue.—The land office will, I flatter myſelf, be ſo regulated, as while it is rendered an object of revenue, it will, at the ſame time, afford the utmoſt encouragement to the ſpeedy ſettlement of the country.

The cultivation of our lands ought to be one of our firſt cares, ſince the riches of a ſtate is to be found in the number of its people. In this view, perhaps it may not be improper to invite ſtrangers to partake of the political bleſſings which we ſo happily enjoy, by facilitating the means of naturalization, and of obtaining and inheriting a portion of the unappropriated land.

It is my duty to recommend to your early conſideration ſuch a proviſion for the ſupport of the officers of government, as is conſiſtent with its dignity, and will tend to procure, or continue in public office, men of integrity and abilities, now that a field is open for the diſplay of talents and induſtry, and they have a proſpect of advancing themſelves and their families in private life. It is an undeniable truth, that in republics, where the force of government depends on a reſpect for the magiſtracy, ignorant or vicious magiſtrates muſt ſoon bring the laws into contempt, and involve the ruin of the State.

Neglect of the education of youth is among the evils conſequent on war. Perhaps there is ſcarcely any thing more worthy your attention than the revival and encouragement of ſeminaries of learning, and nothing by which we can more ſatisfactorily expreſs our gratitude to the Supreme Being for his paſt favours; ſince piety and virtue are generally the offspring of an enlightened underſtanding.

Permit me, gentlemen, to mention the neceſſity of proceeding to the immediate election of members to compoſe a council of appointment; as for want of this board great inconveniencies have already ariſen in this diſtrict of the State; which, from its peculiar ſituation, is deſtitute of the neceſſary officers of government. I would alſo remind you, that we have been for ſome time unrepreſented in Congreſs, with a view that early meaſures may be taken for the appointment of delegates. I need only obſerve, that there are few objects, in which the honour and ſafety of the United States, and each par-

ticular State, is more intereſted, than in the character of the members of the great national council.

A reviſion of our laws, paſſed during the war, in order to conform them to our preſent ſituation, the organization of the militia, and ſuch proviſion for magazines and military ſtores, as are neceſſary as well for our own defence and ſecurity, as a due compliance with the terms of our conſtitution and the confederation, will, I truſt, alſo in the courſe of the ſeſſion engage your attention.

The ſettlement of the accounts between this State, and its citizens, and the United States, has been moſt unfortunately protracted. The reaſons which have expoſed us to this great public inconvenience are explained by my correſpondence with the delegates and ſuperintendant of finance on this ſubject, which is preſented for our information. A gentleman has at length undertaken the office of Commiſſioner of Accounts for this State, and will proceed to the execution of his truſt without delay.

You will perceive from the communications which relate to the ſubject, that I have not been inattentive to the circumſtances of the weſtern poſts within this ſtate. They are undoubtedly of great importance for the protection of our trade and our frontier ſettlements; and it was with concern I learnt that the propoſitions made by the State for garriſoning thoſe poſts, were not acceded to by Congreſs.

It afforded me, however, ſome ſatisfaction to find, that the Commander in Chief was in purſuit of meaſures for that purpoſe, but my expectations proved fruitleſs. The Britiſh Commander in that department, treating the proviſional articles as a ſuſpenſion of hoſtilities only, declined to withdraw his garriſons, and refuſed even to permit us to viſit thoſe poſts. It is neceſſary for me to add, that it will now be impracticable to take poſſeſſion of them until ſpring, and that I have no reaſon to believe, that Congreſs have or are likely to make any proviſion for the expence which will neceſſarily be incurred; it therefore remains for you to take this intereſting ſubject into your farther conſideration.

*Gentlemen,*

Without detaining you any longer, I ſhall now leave with you my correſpondence with Sir Guy Carleton, the proceedings of the Council conſtituted for the temporary government of the Southern diſtrict, and other papers neceſſary for your information; and in the courſe of the ſeſſion I ſhall lay before you the accounts of my receipts and expenditure, and from time to time communicate by meſſage ſuch other matters as may require your attention.—From the wiſdom and magnanimity, which the legiſlature hath uniformly manifeſted in every ſtage of the late arduous conflict, I have the higheſt confidence that your preſent deliberations will be conducted with harmony, be influenced by a ſteady attention to the public good, and be productive of moſt extenſive and eſſential advantages to our country.

GEO. CLINTON.

*New-York, 21ſt Jan.* 1784.

The following Proclamation will fully prove how groundleſs was the foundation of aſſertions calculated only to enflame the rage of party, and to propagate mutual animoſity between this kingdom and the American States.

By the United States, in Congreſs aſſembled.

## A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS Definitive Articles of Peace and Friendſhip, between the United States of America and his

Britannic Majeſty, were concluded and ſigned at Paris, on the third day of September one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty three, by the Plenipotentiaries of the ſaid United States, and of his ſaid Britannic Majeſty, duly and reſpectively authoriſed for that purpoſe; which definitive articles are in the words following:

And we the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, have ſeen and duly conſidered the definitive articles aforeſaid, did by a certain act under the ſeal of the United States, bearing date this 14th day of January 1784, approve, ratify, and confirm the ſame, and every part and clauſe thereof, engaging and promiſing that we would ſincerely and faithfully perform and obſerve the ſame, and never ſuffer them to be violated by any one, or trangreſſed in any manner as far as ſhould be in our power: and being ſincerely diſpoſed to carry the ſaid articles into execution, truly, honeſtly, and with good faith, according to the intent and meaning thereof, we have thought proper by theſe preſents to notify the premiſſes to all the good citizens of theſe United States, hereby requiring and enjoining all bodies of magiſtracy, legiſlative, executive and judiciary, all perſons bearing office, civil or military, of whatever rank, degree, or power, and all others the good citizens of theſe States of every vocation and condition, to reverence thoſe ſtipulations entered into on their behalf, under the authority of the fœderal bond by which their exiſtence as an independent people is bound up together, and is known and acknowledged by the nations of the world; and that with that good faith which is every man's ſureſt guide, within their ſeveral offices, juriſdictions, and vocations, they carry into effect the ſaid definitive articles, and every clauſe and ſentiment thereof, ſincerely, ſtrictly, and completely.

Given under the ſeal of the United States. Witneſs his Excellency Thomas Miſflin, our Preſident, at Annapolis, this 14th day of January, in the year of our Lord 1784, and of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America the eighth.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

And in compliance with the 5th article of this treaty alluded to in the foregoing proclamation, they reſolved unanimouſly: nine ſtates preſent:—"That it be, and it is hereby earneſtly recommended to the legiſlatures of the reſpective States, to provide for the reſtitution of all eſtates, rights and properties, which have been confiſcated, belonging to real Britiſh ſubjects, and alſo of the eſtates, rights, and properties of perſons reſident in diſtricts which were in poſſeſſion of his Britannic Majeſty's arms, at any time between the 30th day of November 1782, and the 14th of January 1783, and who have not borne arms againſt the ſaid United States; and that perſons of any other deſcription ſhall have free liberty to go to any part or parts of the Thirteen United States, and therein to remain 12 months unmoleſted in their endeavours to obtain the reſtitution of ſuch of their eſtates, rights, and properties as may have been confiſcated. And it is alſo hereby earneſtly recommended to the ſeveral States, to reconſider and reviſe all their acts and laws regarding the premiſſes, ſo as to render the ſaid laws or acts perfectly conſiſtent, not only with juſtice and equity, but with that ſpirit of conciliation which, on the return of the bleſſings of peace, ſhould univerſally prevail. And it is hereby alſo earneſtly recommended to the ſeveral States, that the eſtates, rights, and properties of ſuch laſt mentioned perſons ſhould be reſtored to them, they refunding to any perſon who may be now in poſſeſſion, the *bona fide* price (where any has been given) which ſuch perſons may have paid on purchaſing any of the ſaid lands, rights, and properties, ſince the confiſcation.

The following are authentic copies of two acts, paſſed by the Aſſembly of Virginia reſpecting the rights of citizenſhip in that ſtate.

WHEREAS it is the policy of all infant ſtates to encourage population, among other means, by an eaſy mode for the admiſſion of foreigners to the rights of CITIZENSHIP; yet wiſdom and ſafety ſuggeſt the propriety of guarding againſt the introduction of ſecret enemies, and of keeping the offices of government in the hands of citizens intimately acquainted with the ſpirit of the conſtitution and the genius of the people, as well as permanently attached to the common intereſt—Be it therefore enacted by the

General Assembly, that all free persons born within the territory of this common wealth, all persons not being natives, who have obtained a right of citizenship under the act entitled "An act declaring who shall be deemed citizens of the commonwealth," and also all children, wheresoever born, whose fathers or mothers are or were citizens at the time of the birth of such children, shall be deemed citizens of this commonwealth, until they relinquish that character in manner hereafter mentioned; and that all persons, other than alien enemies, who shall migrate into this state, and shall, before some court of record, give satisfactory proof, by oath, or being Quakers or Menonists, by affirmation, that they intend to reside therein, and also take the legal oath of affirmation for giving assurance of fidelity to the commonwealth (which oaths or affirmations the clerk of the court shall enter on record, and give a certificate thereof to the person taking the same, for which he shall receive the fee of one dollar), shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges, and advantages of citizens, except that they shall not be capable of election or appointment to any office, legislative, executive, or judiciary, until an actual residence in the state of two years from the time of taking such oaths, or affirmations as aforesaid, or until they shall have evinced a permanent attachment to the state, by having intermarried with a citizen of this commonwealth, or purchased lands to the value of one hundred pounds therein: Provided always, and be it further enacted, that no person whatsoever, having or holding any place or pension, from any foreign state or potentate, shall be eligible to any office, legislative, executive, or judiciary, within this commonwealth.

And in order to preserve to the citizens of this commonwealth that mutual right which all men have of relinquishing the society in which birth or accident may have thrown them, and of seeking subsistence and happiness elsewhere, and to declare explicitly what shall be deemed evidence of an intention in any citizen to exercise that right, be it further enacted, that whensoever any citizens of this commonwealth shall, by deed in writing under his hand and seal, executed in the presence of, and subscribed by three witnesses, and by them, or two of them, proved in the general court, or the court of the county wherein he resides, or by open verbal declaration made in either of the said courts (to be by them entered on record), declare that he relinquishes the character of a citizen, and shall depart out of this commonwealth, such person shall, from the time of his departure, be considered as having exercised the right of expatriation, and shall thenceforth be deemed no citizen. And be it further enacted, That the act of Assembly passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, entitled "An act declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this commonwealth," shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

*December* 16. 1783.

Passed the Senate with amendments.

(Signed) WILL. DRUE, C. S.

WHEREAS it is just and necessary to prevent the admission into this State of those persons, who, being either citizens or natives of some of the United States, have withdrawn themselves from their country, actually being in arms, aiding and abetting the common enemy in their endeavours to subvert the rights and liberties of America—Be it therefore enacted, that all persons who having accepted a military commission from the United States, or any of them, who having taken the oath of fidelity to any of the United States, or who having been natives of or residents in any of the United States, on the nineteenth day of April, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, or at any time since, have at any time during the late war voluntarily joined themselves to the fleets or armies of the King of Britain, and having borne arms against the United States, or any of them, within their territories, or on their coasts, or who being the inhabitants of any of the United States, on the nineteenth day of April one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and have since that time been owners, or part owners, of any privateer, or other armed vessel cruizing against the United States, or any of them, shall be, and they are hereby prohibited from migrating to, or becoming citizens of this State. And be it further enacted, that all and every person, or persons, who at any time acted as a member of the Board of Refugee Commissioners at New-York, or who had acted under the authority, or by the direction of the said Board, shall be, and they are hereby prohibited from migrat-

ing to or becoming citizens of this State.

And be it further enacted, that all perſons reſident in this, or any of the United States, on the ſaid nineteenth day of April, and not included in the above deſcriptions, who are at preſent prohibited by law from migrating to this State, ſhall be, and they are hereby permitted to migrate into, and enjoy all the rights of citizenſhip, except that they ſhall not be capable of voting for members to either Houſe of Aſſembly, or of holding or exerciſing any office, or truſt, or profit, civil or military.—Provided that nothing herein contained ſhall be conſtrued ſo as to contravene the treaty of peace with Great Britain lately concluded. And be it further enacted, that full and ample protection ſhall be given to all perſons who ſhall come into this commonwealth upon lawful buſineſs, except thoſe who are prohibited by this act from migrating into this State. And be it further enacted, that the act to prohibit intercourſe with and the admiſſion of Britiſh ſubjects into this State, and alſo ſo much of every other act, or acts of aſſembly, as comes within the meaning of this act, ſhall be, and the ſame are hereby repealed.

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*The following is a Tranſlation of the* KING *of* PRUSSIA'S *Letter to the* STATES GENERAL, *dated March* 19. 1784, *and delivered by the Pruſſian Envoy the* 31*ſt of the ſame month.*

WE FREDERIC, &c. &c.

*High and Mighty Lords,*

YOUR High Mightineſſes will be pleaſed to recollect, that we have cauſed a memorial to be laid before the States General on the 21ſt January 1783, by our Envoy Extraordinary the Sieur de Thulemier, requeſting you would take ſuch meaſures as might effectually put an end to the odious perſecutions carried on againſt the Prince Stadtholder, and maintain him in the full enjoyment of thoſe prerogatives which are the rightful attributes of his perſon and family. The very ſame requiſition had been previouſly made to the States of Holland and Weſt Friſeland, by a letter bearing date January 15th in the ſame year. We had flattered ourſelves that ſuch friendly exhortations would be taken in good part, be productive of ſome ſalutary effect, and contribute to the internal pacification of the United Provinces; yet, to our very great diſappointment, we find that the very contrary has been the caſe, as appears by facts equally public and notorious, which clearly evinces that ſome perſons, actuated by a ſpirit of faction, ambition, and by ſelfiſh views, ſtill continue to perſecute the Prince of Orange with the greateſt animoſity, and to moleſt him unjuſtly both in his perſon, and in regard to his prerogatives and dignity.

No one is ignorant in what outrageous manner the above Prince is treated in ſcurrilous libels daily publiſhed and countenanced, and whoſe authors are not ſo much as cenſured by the magiſtrates. Such libels tend manifeſtly to exaſperate the nation againſt the ſaid Prince, eſpecially as any one who dares ſpeak or write in his favour are proſecuted, ill-treated, baniſhed, nay, puniſhed as if guilty of ſome enormous crime. It is likewiſe known, that arbitrary attempts are made to deſpoil ſucceſſively the Stadtholder of his moſt important prerogatives as it were one by one, without any right, or even the ſhadow of a well-grounded motive. We freely confeſs that we are not acquainted with the internal conſtitution of the Republic in all its parts; our intention, therefore, cannot be to rate it at its proper value, much leſs to criticiſe upon it. Nevertheleſs, as it is evident to all that the States General, who repreſent the Republic at large, have by expreſs and irrevocable ſtipulation deferred to the Prince of Orange's father, for himſelf and heirs, both male and female, the Stadtholderſhip, with all the rights, dignities, and prerogatives

thereto belonging, ſuch as were enjoyed by former Stadtholders; it does not by any means admit of a doubt, but that ſuch rights and prerogatives as have been enjoyed by the ſaid Prince, ſome of which are now diſputed, cannot be aboliſhed or recalled in an arbitrary manner, againſt his conſent, and without the joint concurrence of the whole body of the Republic: at leaſt, it appears evident, that no particular city or province can deſpoil him of ſuch rights and prerogatives, he never having made a bad uſe of them, as his own well-known character, and even the public voice aſſures us he has not. Nay, were any doubts to ariſe in regard to the extent of ſuch rights, natural equity ſeems even in ſuch caſes to require, that theſe prerogatives hitherto enjoyed by the Prince be not taken away or ſuſpended, as has been the caſe of late; but, on the contrary, that he be ſupported therein, until the matter ſhould be finally determined, after the ſerious deliberation and judgment of the General Aſſembly of the States, between the Republic and the Prince, either by way of compromiſe, or a formal and conſtitutional deciſion.

We cannot believe that the intention of your High Mightineſſes, or indeed of any well-meaning member of the State, is to aboliſh the high office of Stadtholder, or to circumſcribe it within ſuch narrow limits, or to ſubſtitute a mere ſhadow for the reality. It is rather to be hoped that every ſenſible citizen of the Republic ſhall gratefully remember, that it is eſpecially by the unſhaken bravery, the conſummate prudence, and even the blood of the illuſtrious Princes of Orange and Naſſau, that, during the courſe of two centuries, the freedom of the Republic, ſecured by them, has been ſupported, and the United Provinces reſcued from the moſt imminent dangers: Such well-wiſhers to their country muſt alſo confeſs, that during the temporary ſuſpenſion of the Stadtholderſhip, the ſtate has proved leſs proſperous, that it has been ſo torn and diſtracted by internal faction, that it was nearly brought to final ruin, in ſo much, that, in order to ſave it from deſtruction, it was found neceſſary to reſtore the office of Stadtholder.

We know full well, that owing to a dread leſt the liberty of the Republic ſhould be endangered, the dignity of Stadtholder has, at times, been entirely laid aſide: but without inveſtigating whether ſuch apprehenſions were grounded or not, certain it is, that they cannot exiſt at preſent; ſince the wiſe and ſafe policy that actuates the reigning potentates of Europe, thoſe reſpective powers are watchful for the preſervation of each other, and that none of them can tamely ſuffer, much leſs contribute to the ſubverſion of the other. You would ſee us eagerly take the part of the Republic, and be the firſt to act in its behalf, were any ſuch deſign broached againſt the States. But we can ſafely take upon us to aſſure, that neither the preſent Stadtholder, nor any of his moſt immediate ſucceſſors, will ever contrive or undertake any thing againſt the freedom or welfare of the Republic, as it is inſeparable from their own proſperity; we, on the contrary, could pledge ourſelves, that they will ever diſcharge the high and important office of Stadtholder, and exerciſe its prerogatives conformably to the intentions and meaning of your High Mightineſſes, from which they never will depart; and for this we do moſt ſolemnly ſtand pledged to the States General. We can do it the more ſecurely, that we are fully acquainted with the noble and generous principles of the Prince of Orange and his conſort, as well as thoſe their family muſt imbibe from them; and that on all occaſions we adviſe them to place their happineſs ſolely in the union and proſpe-

rity of the Republic; but a bove all, in a perfect good underſtanding between them and your High Mightineſſes. The connections between our reſpective States require the very ſame from us; and as we are in hopes that your High Mightineſſes will fully rely on our long experience, we of courſe flatter ourſelves you will conſider theſe our repreſentations merely as the emanations of that friendſhip which, as their good neighbours, actuated us in favour of the Republic; and alſo of that concern which we muſt naturally feel for an illuſtrious Houſe, to which we are ſo nearly allied; and by no means ſuppoſe that we only preſume to meddle ourſelves in the private affairs of the States, or encroach upon their freedom, grounded on the firmeſt baſis, and ſo glorioufly acquired.

What we have hitherto addnced is ſo ſelf-evident, that it cannot admit of the leaſt doubt, and therefore we do earneſtly entreat your High Mightineſſes, ſeriouſly to interpoſe your authority in the preſent troubles of the Republic, and to take ſuch meaſures as may tend, in the firſt place, to prohibit and repreſs the publication of thoſe violent and dangerous libels, either againſt the Stadtholder, or even on either ſide, and puniſh thoſe who may have wrote or promoted ſuch libels, as tending only to inflame the minds of the nation. On our part we ſhall take the moſt effectual ſteps in the neighbouring dominions, that by proper exertions, and legal prohibitions, a ſtop may be put to the proſecutions and indecent perſonalities levelled againſt the Prince and his friends; in order, if poſſible, to ſtay in time the alarming progreſs of the ſpirit of innovation, and the dangerous train of civil diſſentions which generally follows the former; to reſtore a proper confidence and harmony between the Prince and his oppoſers; to maintain him in the quiet and undiſturbed poſſeſſion of the rights and prerogatives which he has hitherto enjoyed, not permitting his being deprived of any of them in an arbitrary manner, but rather reſtoring him to the enjoyment of ſuch as may have been unjuſtly taken from him; and providing, that henceforth the ſtate affairs be treated of, and ſettled with him in a ſatisfactory manner, as it is ſtipulated by the antient conſtitution of the United Provinces. By theſe means the latter will ſoon be reſtored to their wonted peace and tranquility, and your High Mightineſſes will be entitled to the approbation of every well-meaning citizen, and even of all Europe.

We cannot, conſidering the ſituation of our dominions, and of our antient connections with the Republic, forbear feeling the deepeſt concern for the fate of the illuſtrious Houſe of Orange and the continuance of the Stadtholderſhip, which we never can tamely ſuffer to undergo any alteration. We truſt, therefore, that your High Mightineſſes will take in good part the contents of this letter; and will conſider them as the advice of a true and ſincere friend to the Republic; and that your High Mightineſſes will not refuſe to give it ſome attention, as well as to what may be laid hereafter before you by our Miniſter at the Hague, the Sieur de Thulemier, whenever he has any thing in command from us:

It is in full confidence thereof that we remain, of your High Mightineſſes the good friend and neighbour.

FREDERIC."

(By Command) { FINCKENSTEIN, HERTSBERG.

[*** *See Foreign Intelligence.*]

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*To the PEERS of SCOTLAND.*

MY LORDS,

AS the election of Sixteen Peers to repreſent our order in Parliament is fixed for the 8th of May, and as many noble Peers have ſolicited our votes on that occaſion, it is earneſtly recommend-

ed to your Lordſhips not to conſider it merely as an election, but as an opportunity of teſtifying our political ſentiments, by voting only for thoſe noble Peers who have or ſhall declare themſelves inimical to the late daring attempt to overturn the Conſtitution, and to trample Majeſty under foot.

I truſt your Lordſhips will not let your judgments be biaſſed by the hackneyed phraſe of *independence*, uſed by thoſe Peers who, while they hold forth this language to us, may themſelves depend on the members of a dangerous ariſtocracy. On any other occaſion, I ſhould be foremoſt in oppoſing the election of thoſe Peers, who were underſtood to have ſolicited the influence of Government in their favour. At preſent, it is not only a queſtion of the independence and dignity of our order, but, what is ſtill of greater moment, of preſerving our Conſtitution, by the continuing in power thoſe who have ſaved it from ruin; and the very ſame reaſons which, on any other occaſion, ſhould make us reject ſuch candidates as had the ſupport of Government, ſhould, on this occaſion, make us vote for them: For, unleſs Peers will explain their political ſentiments, which many may decline, or take it as an affront when aſked, we therefore have no other way of judging but by what is underſtood to be the court liſt.

A noble Peer, for whom I have a very high reſpect, in a moſt ſpirited manner gave a check to the inſolence of Engliſh miniſters, who dared to dictate to our order. The ſame noble Peer, whoſe independent ſpirit none can doubt, is at preſent a firm and ſtrenuous ſupporter of Government, and the rights of the Crown.

I would by no means recommend it to your Lordſhips, that if candidates of leſs conſideratiion ſhould appear in the court liſt, to vote for them, when others of more reſpectable characters, and ſimilar political ſentiments, ſhall offer themſelves—This line of conduct I mean myſelf to purſue.

I have now to apologiſe for a Peer, ſo little known to your Lordſhips, or to the world, preſuming to give any advice on this ſubject. There may, however, be leſs impropriety in my conduct, as I am no candidate; and, having nothing to expect from Government, I may be deemed impartial. It cannot be ſaid, that either myſelf or my family have baſked in the ſunſhine of court-favour, and enjoyed places on places, and penſions added to penſions. Had this been the caſe, I ſhould have had gratitude enough not to have attempted to kick down the ladder that raiſed me, or have ſacrificed my principles to other ambitious views. But on the contrary, my Lords, I have experienced every neglect which a man unſupported by political connections ever meets with in this country.

Your Lordſhips cannot believe me to be a time-ſerver, when I inform you, that I declared my political ſentiments to many gentlemen during the diſcuſſion of the India bill.

This explanation of my ſentiments is the more neceſſary, as hitherto I never attended an election of the Peers, and have often declared my intention, that I ſhould not act in a political capacity as one of your order. Nothing could have prevailed on me to have departed from my reſolutions, had it not been my opinion, that it was the duty of every order or rank of men to ſtep forward at this time, and to teſtify their readineſs to ſupport the powers and privileges of every branch of the legiſlature.

I have the honour to be,
My Lords,
Your Lordſhips moſt obedient
and very humble ſervant,
*Culroſs Abbey*, DUNDONALD.
*April* 17. 1784.

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## CONVENTION OF DELEGATES OF ROYAL BURGHS.

*Edinburgh, March* 25. 1784.

THIS day aſſembled here the delegates from the Royal Burghs of Scotland, for deliberating on the buſineſs of Reform, when there appeared delegates from the following burghs, viz, Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, Stirling, Linlithgow, St Andrews, Glaſgow, Haddington, Dyſart, Kirkcaldy, Montroſe, Cupar-Fife, Anſtruther Eaſter, Dunfermline, Burntiſland, Kinghorn, Brechin, Irvine, Jedburgh, Pittenweem, Dunbarton, Dunbar, Lanark, Arbroath, Elgin, Peebles, Crail, Banff, Nairn, Anſtruther Weſter,

Sanquhar, Dingwall, Inverury, and Lochmaben.

They afterwards proceeded to buſineſs, and having unanimouſly elected William Charles Little of Libberton, Eſq; preſident, Mr Thomas M'Grugar ſecretary, and an under-ſecretary and clerk, they came to the following

## RESOLUTIONS.

The delegates of the burgeſſes and other inhabitants of the Royal Burghs of Scotland, in convention aſſembled, having, for themſelves and their conſtituents, ſeriouſly and maturely conſidered the former and preſent ſtate of the Royal Burghs of Scotland, with regard to the manner of electing their Town Councils, Magiſtrates, and Repreſentatives in Parliament, and the great abuſes and deviations from the natural and ancient rights of the people, and the principles of the conſtitution, which prevail in the preſent form of theſe elections:

Reſolved unanimouſly, That in the Royal Burghs of Scotland, it is the ancient and unqueſtionable right of the reſident burgeſſes and incorporations, who are ſo deeply intereſted in the preſervation and proſperity of the burghs to elect the Magiſtrates and Town Councils to whom the government and adminiſtration of the common affairs of the burgh is committed.

Reſolved unanimouſly, That by the ſpirit and principles of the Britiſh Conſtitution, it is the indubitable right of the people to poſſeſs a ſhare in the legiſlative power, by appointing Delegates or Commiſſioners to repreſent them in the Commons Houſe of Parliment; and that this right, ſo evidently conſtitutional, is alſo natural and unalienable.

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the preſent modes of electing, not only the Magiſtrates and Town Councils, but alſo the Repreſentatives in Parliament for the Royal Burghs in Scotland, whereby the great body of the heritors, burgeſſes, and other reſpectable inhabitants, are excluded from their due ſhare in theſe elections, are great abuſes and grievances, repugnant to the rights and liberties of the people, as well as moſt pernicious in their conſequences.

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the laws, regulations, or uſages, which have diveſted the people of the exerciſe of their natural, legal, and unalienable rights of election, are unjuſt, unconſtitutional, and ought to be repealed.

Reſolved unanimouſly, That for all theſe reaſons, and in compliance with the earneſt wiſhes, and deep rooted ſentiments of their conſtituents, the Delegates are determined to perſevere in employing every legal and conſtitutional effort in their power to eſtabliſh the election of Magiſtrates, Town Councils, and Repreſentatives in Parliament for the Royal Burghs in Scotland, upon a proper, liberal, and conſtitutional footing, equally favourable to the rights and liberties of the people, and the induſtry, tranquility, and proſperity of the nation.

Theſe reſolutions being read, the Convention remitted the ſame to the conſideration of a committee of the following perſons: Meſſrs Little, Cullen, Ewan, M'Grugar, Dickſon, Fletcher, and Dunbar; which committee was appointed to report their opinion to the Convention next day at 11 o'clock.

Mr Cullen, one of the delegates from Glaſgow, then moved, "That the draught of a bill or bills, which, he underſtood had been prepared by the Edinburgh Committee, for the extenſion of the right of ſuffrage at the election of the Town Councils and

Repreſentatives in Parliament, for the Royal Burghs, ſhould be laid before the Convention." In conſequence of this motion, Mr M'Grugar ſaid, that the Edinburgh Committee had inſtructed him to communicate theſe bills to the Convention, which being produced and read to the Convention, were remitted to the conſideration of the committee above named, to which were added the following gentlemen: Sir William Hamilton, Meſſrs Maxwell, Farquhar, Sawers, and Sivewright.

Mr Dickſon, advocate, one of the delegates from Montroſe, then moved, "That the thanks of the Convention be returned to the Gentlemen of the Edinburgh Committee, for the great trouble they had taken in preparing the above bills, and the great attention which they had in general paid to the important objects of the propoſed reform."—Which motion was agreed to unanimouſly.

The Convention adjourned to Friday at 11 o'clock forenoon.

*Edinburgh, March 26.*

This day the Convention met according to adjournment, and Mr Cullen, chairman of the Committee, produced the reſolutions referred to in our proceedings of yeſterday, which were unanimouſly agreed to.

Mr Cullen further reported the opinion of the Committee with reſpect to the nature of the modes of election which were propoſed to be cheriſhed in the burghs, and which report was of the following tenor:

"REPORT *of the* COMMITTEE.

"The Committee having taken under their conſideration the draught of a bill, for altering the preſent mode of election of the Magiſtrates and Town Councils, and alſo the draught of another bill, for reforming the mode of electing the Repreſentatives of the Royal Burghs in Parliament, (which draughts had been prepared by the Committee of Citizens at Edinburgh), They humbly beg leave to report it as their opinion, that in order to render the propoſed reform ſuch as may meet with the general approbation and conſent of all the Royal Burghs in Scotland, it will be requiſite to make ſeveral alterations upon the draughts of the two bills above mentioned. They are further of opinion, that it will be impoſſible, during the preſent Convention, to digeſt and prepare draughts of ſuch bills as may be proper to be brought into Parliament; and they therefore apprehend, it will be proper for the Convention to appoint a ſtanding Committee of their number, who ſhall, betwixt and the firſt day of May next, prepare draughts of ſuch bills as they ſhall judge beſt calculated to obtain that reform which all the Royal Burghs have in view; that copies of the draughts of the bills ſo prepared, ſhall be tranſmitted to the committees in the different burghs, who ſhall lay the ſame before their conſtituents for their conſideration, and that there ſhould be another meeting of this Convention held upon Tueſday the 8th day of June next, to receive the opinions of the ſeveral Royal Burghs with regard to theſe bills, and to determine on ſuch meaſures as may be neceſſary for carrying through the buſineſs."

This report was received with great approbation; and a motion made, that the thanks of the Convention ſhould be given to Mr Cullen, advocate, and the gentlemen of the Committee, for their very proper and accurate report.

A Committee was then appointed, compoſed of the following reſpectable perſons:

"The Right Hon. Lord Gardenſton, Sir W. Hamilton, Bart. Meſſrs

Little, M'Grugar, Cullen, Dickſon, M'Intoſh, Sommers, Fletcher, Dunbar, Strachan."

Any five of whom to be a quorum.

The Preſident then moved, that the thanks of the Convention be voted to the author of the ſpirited and elegant letters under the ſignature of Zeno, to which in a great meaſure might be attributed the glorious efforts now made by the royal burghs, for the recovery of their ancient rights and privileges; which motion was unanimouſly agreed to.

Mr Tod, delegate from Irvine, moved, that the thanks of the Convention be alſo voted to the author of the letters of Civis, which had likewiſe not a little contributed to excite the preſent ſpirit of reform. This motion was alſo unanimouſly agreed to.

Mr Cullen then moved, that the Preſes of the Edinburgh Committee ſhould ſtate to the Convention the nature and extent of the correſpondence which he underſtood that Committee had carried on. In conſequence of this motion, the Preſident informed the Convention, that the correſpondence of the Edinburgh Committee, on the ſubject of Reform, had been very extenſive. That they had received letters from ſome of the firſt characters in both Houſes of Parliament, approving of their meaſures, and giving the moſt poſitive aſſurances of ſupport. And that they had likewiſe been honoured with the approbation of men of the firſt rank and abilities in the republic of letters.

It was then moved, that the thanks of this Convention be given to William Charles Little, Eſq; Preſident, for his attentive and candid conduct in the chair; which was voted unanimouſly.

Mr Little returned his acknowledgments to the Convention for the vote they had now made. He aſſured them, that nothing had ever given him greater pleaſure than the concord and unanimity with which they had conducted their great and important deliberations. That he was happy to obſerve, that they were equally diſtinguiſhed by the genuine ſpirit of liberality, candour, and benevolence, which endeared them ſo much to him as men, that he could uſe the expreſſion of a celebrated Poet, with a very trifling alteration,

*Vobis vivere amem, vobis obeam libens.*

The Convention adjourned to Tueſday the 8th June next.

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## ANECDOTE.

SOME years ago, a fiſherman between Lambeth and Vauxhall was drawing a net pretty cloſe to the channel, when he found a great weight entangled in it, which, with difficulty, he and his companion drew to ſhore. Upon examining what it ſhould be, they were utterly at a loſs. But having ſhown it about, ſome wiſer heads than their own diſcovered it to be the Great Seal of England. This occaſioned much ſpeculation. But at laſt it appeared, that King James, the night before he went away, had called for it from Lord Jeffries, who was then chancellor, under pretence of making a ſecret uſe of it for pardons or grants; but when he determined to fly, he either thought the bulk or weight of it inconvenient to carry, or that it was hereafter to be of no farther uſe to him; and therefore, that it might a little diſconcert his enemies, he had thrown it into the Thames. The fiſhermen, overjoyed at their good fortune, carried it to court, and received a handſome reward, though no uſe was ever made of it afterwards.

## *MONTHLY REGISTER OF HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.*

### FOREIGN.

*Conſtantinople, Feb.* 10.

THE eſtabliſhment of preſſes, and revival of printing, in this capital, is now ſeriouſly taken into conſideration. The vice-chancellor, and the hiſtoriographer of the empire, who have intereſted themſelves in this affair, are nominated by the Grand Viſir as commiſſaries for the direction of the undertaking. In conſequence of which an order has been ſent to Holland for a large ſtock of different ſorts of paper.—The plan is to reprint all kinds of books, except dogmatic and theological works, which are excepted on account of the prejudices which prevail here, that it is more convenient and decent that books treating of religion be written; beſides which, it would not be prudent to deprive a great number of copyiſts all at once of ſubſiſtence.

"Laſt week the two eldeſt ſons of the Grand Signior were put under the care of maſters. There were great rejoicings at the ſeraglio on this occaſion, and as it is cuſtomary for the grandees of the empire to make preſents to the Sultan in ſuch circumſtances, the Grand Vizir has particularly diſtinguiſhed himſelf: It is computed that the diamonds alone given by him are worth 170,000 purſes.

"Our government ſeems much diſſatisfied with the court of Spain for not expediting the preſents intended to the Ottoman Porte, and which are cuſtomary when we contract alliances with her. It is now upwards of nine months ſince the treaty of amity and commerce was concluded and ratified between his Catholic Majeſty and the Porte.

"According to letters from Cairo, Amurat Bey, who had been obliged to fly into Egypt, is returned to Cairo, at the head of a number of troops, and has driven out Ibrahim Bey. This intelligence appears ſo much the more certain, as the receiver of the cuſtoms of Cairo, fearing the vengeance of Amurat, retired with all ſpeed to Alexandria, freighted a French ſhip there, and ſailed for Leghorn. This receiver of the cuſtoms is named Dion de Caſſis of Damaſcus, who has accumulated great riches at Cairo, amounting to upwards of ten millions of pattacoons. It is ſaid, that he had the precaution from time to time to tranſmit vaſt ſums into ſome Chriſtian countries in Europe."

*Conſtantinople, Feb* 10. "The inva[ſion] made by the Ruſſians ſome time ago [in]to the Perſian countries of Ghilan and Mazenderan hath given riſe to a treaty, by which Abdul-fat-Kan, who now governs Perſia under the title of regent, hath granted them leave to build three forts, viz. two in the Mazenderan, and another at Anzeli, an iſland in the Caſpian ſea, oppoſite the capital of Ghilan. By this means the Ruſſians may excluſively enjoy all the commerce of the north of Perſia and Caſpian ſea."

*Peterſburgh, February* 13. "The Empreſs has appointed Prince Potemkin to be Preſident of the Board of War, with the rank of Field Marſhal; Count Soltikow to be Aide de Camp General, and General Paul Potemkin to be Governor General of Aſtracan, and of the countries bordering upon Mount Caucaſus. Her Imperial Majeſty has conferred the order of St Andrew on the Vice-Chancellor Count Oſterman, with a valuable preſent, the order of St Alex. Newiki, and a grant of lands, with the rank of Privy Counſellor, on Monſ. Beſberodko; and the ſame order on Monſ. de Simolin, Miniſter Plenipotentiary at the Court of London, and Prince Bariatinſki, Miniſter Plenipotentiary at the Court of Verſailles; the order of St Wolodomir, with a grant of lands, on Monſ. Bakounin; and the ſecond croſs of the ſame order, with the rank of Conſeiller d'Etat, on Monſ. Markoff, Miniſter Plenipotentiary at Verſailles. Her Imperial Majeſty has alſo made preſents of very conſiderable value to Prince Repnin, Prince Waſemſky, Monſ. Bulgakow, and Count Cobenzel, the Imperial Miniſter at this Court."

*Peterſburgh, March* 16. "The Empreſs has juſt iſſued an edict, giving leave to all foreigners, of what nation or country ſoever, to carry on a free and unlimited trade, both by ſea and land, with the ſeveral countries bordering upon the Euxine ſea, which have lately been annexed to the Ruſſian dominions; and allotting ſpecially to ſuch foreign merchants the ports of Cherſon, in the government of Catherinoſlaw, Sepaſtopolis (formerly called Acht-iar) and Theodoſia (formerly Caffa) both in the province of Taurica, where they may reſide, and carry on their traffic, with the ſame immunities and privileges, religious and civil, as are allowed in this city and at Archangel."

*Warſaw, February* 28. "The deputies from Dantzic are expected here to-day. The negociation ſo often announced will

take place next week. Prince Maſſalſky, Biſhop of Wilda, is juſt arrived here.—According to this Nobleman, ſwords were drawn, and blood ſhed, at the diet at Kaun."

*Warſaw, March* 16. "Peace being eſtabliſhed between Ruſſia and the Sublime Porte, many Greeks, who have wavered between hope and deſpair, have come to the reſolution to fix their abode in the new poſſeſſions of Ruſſia. Several of theſe have conſiderable property. We hear on the other ſide, that the Turks, wiſhing to make Choczim a place of commerce, have eſtabliſhed there conſiderable magazines, filled with all ſorts of merchandize. Theſe mercantile diſpoſitions promiſe greatly for a profitable trade between Ruſſia, the Ottoman States and this Republic."

*Dantzick, Feb.* 24. "The froſt is entirely diſſolved in theſe parts, and all the rivers are open; but a more aweful ſcene now preſents itſelf in the inundations which almoſt every where ſurround us. The little village of Tibberlihein, in Ducal Pruſſia, is entirely drowned, and few of the inhabitants have eſcaped; cattle and ſheep come ſwimming down the rivers."

*Franckfort on the Main, March* 7. "We receive from every quarter melancholy accounts of the conſequences of the thaw and overflowing of the Rhine, the Main, and the Necker. Many houſes and mills at Sachſenhauſen have been ſwept away; 13 houſes were thrown down at Miltemberg, and a number of perſons buried in their ruins; many edifices have been waſhed away by the torrent at Kitringen; one half of the town of Bonn is under water, as well as the villages of Limperic, Beul, and Shevartz Shaindorffe; the Lutheran church and 130 houſes have been deſtroyed at Mulheim."

*Malta, March* 1. "A ſquadron is fitting out by order of the Grand Maſter, which is to join that of Venice, to go on an expedition againſt Tunis; after which the two fleets are to join the Spaniſh fleet in an attack upon the city of Algiers.

*Leghorn, Feb.* 27. "We have to give you a melancholy account of the ſhip Grand Ducheſs of Tuſcany, Captain William Blackett, which ſailed from hence for London the 5th curt, with a very valuable cargo, computed at no leſs than 50 or 60,000 l. Streſs of weather obliged her to put into Porto-Ferraio, from whence ſhe ſailed again on the 19th; but on the morning of the 21ſt, the captain being alarmed about two o'clock by a noiſe upon deck, jumped out of bed in his waiſtcoat, and was going upon deck, thinking it proceeded from a ſudden ſquall of wind, when, coming near the companion, he was aſſaulted by three Sclavonian ſailors, of the ſhip's company, with knives and cutlaſſes, who wounded him in ſeveral parts of the throat and head; and on his attempting to go upon deck, cut him in the legs and knee: When arrived upon deck, he found the ſecond mate knocked down by a violent blow on the ſkull with a mall, the helmſman killed, and the mutineers in poſſeſſion of the cabin, and all the arms. They had butchered Mr Brown, the firſt mate, and cut him in pieces. The ſurgeon was alſo deſperately wounded. The captain being almoſt faint with loſs of blood, the people unable to procure arms of any kind, and the mutineers in poſſeſſion of all the arms and cloſe quarters, the captain, Mr Kochler, and four of his people, determined, in hopes of ſaving the ſhip and cargo, to proceed on ſhore to Cape Corſo, about five or ſix miles diſtant, expecting to procure immediate aſſiſtance of arms and people; but little attention was paid to them by the ſentinel on ſhore, notwithſtanding the continual firing from on board the ſhip: At length, a row-galley, with two guns, and about 20 men, was ſent off; but the wind blowing freſh, and the ſea running high, they could not purſue the veſſel, which was ſailing away before the wind. The row-boat, however, met the ſhip's launch, with 16 men, who were obliged to quit the ſhip at day-break. A boat was immediately diſpatched from Corſica to Leghorn, with notice to Conſul Udney, and Meſſ. Jaume, father and ſons, to whom the ſhip was addreſſed, and proper meaſures were concerted, by diſpatching expreſſes to Porto-Ferraio and Nizza (where there were Engliſh frigates) with an account thereof: At the ſame time, Meſſrs Jaume induced many of the merchants and inſurers to ſend the Tartar, Captain Plowman, on a cruiſe, in queſt of the ſaid veſſel, which ſailed accordingly on Wedneſday night, with ſixteen 2, 3, and 4 pounders, and about 54 men. Capt. Blackett, of the Thetis frigate, being in Porto-Ferraio nearly unrigged, on re-

ceiving the news on Tuesday afternoon, was ready for sea the next morning at ten o'clock, but the wind failing, could not sail till near dusk. A messenger was sent to the Court of Naples, for some armed vessels to be sent after the pirates; and notice was also dispatched to the commanding Venetian Admiral at Corfu; so that it is hoped the villains will not escape unpunished."

*Vienna, March* 6. "Mr Busching has published an account of the population of the different estates of Germany, by which it appears that Bohemia contains 2,100,000inhabitants; Moravia 1,000,000; the Circle of Austria 4,150,000; the Circle of Burgundy 1,600,000; and Bavaria 1,150,000. These are only the principal estates, the total of whose inhabitants, according to the above, amount to 10,000,000 souls. The population of Germany has, however, been reckoned at 25,000,000; but Mr Busching cannot think that the inhabitants of those parts which he has omitted can amount to above 4,000,000.

"It seems now a matter of certainty, that the Grand Duke of Tuscany will come to this city in June, bringing with him his eldest son, who is to marry Princess Elizabeth of Wurtemburgh; but it is not yet known whether the marriage will take place at that time or not.

"We have accounts from Bosnia, that the plague ceased there almost suddenly, shortly after the signing of the treaty of peace at Constantinople, which shews that the Porte thought that a report of the raging of that disorder an excellent guard to the frontiers."

*Vienna, March* 13. "The Emperor has ordered 40,000 florins to be distributed among the sufferers by inundations from the thaw."

*Vienna, March* 13. "Seven different couriers from Constantinople bring tidings that a famous banker and his sons had stopped payment for no less a sum than 80,000 piastres. This bankruptcy will be severely felt by the principal houses in this city."

*Vienna, March* 15. "We have received the disagreeable news of a terrible fire having consumed the military magazines of Esseg in Hungary; the loss is estimated at several millions. The fire continued three days.

"By advices from Italy we learn, that the court of Rome is uneasy, on account of the preparations which the Duke of Modena is making in his States. That Prince rejects all the propositions of the Holy See relative to the Duchy of Ferrara, to which he forms some pretensions. The Pope, in the mean time, hath ordered the garrison to be re-enforced and supplied with ammunition and provisions. The same letters from Italy say, that as soon as the Pope had learnt that the Regency of Tunis had declared war against the Venetians, he ordered that the frigates and galleys of the Ecclesiastical State should not only protect the Venetian ships in case they were attacked, but also join them against the Tunisians. The Grand Master of the Order of Malta hath given the same instructions to all his vessels."

*Venice, March* 6. "The Bey of Tunis has broke the peace with this republic, on account of our not making him presents four times more valuable than usual. The senate immediately came to a resolution to send out a squadron of nine ships of the line, of 70 and 90 guns, four frigates, and eight chebecks, to bring that regency to reason, and to protect, at the same time, the Venetian flag in the Mediterranean, which is under the command of the Chevalier Emo, a noble Venetian, of the highest reputation in the marine of the republic.

*Venice, March* 28. "The situation of the Republic at this time is exceedingly critical, having disputes with three different powers. Another squadron is now fitting here, of which the chevalier Antony Emo will have the command; he is the only Admiral of the States: His squadron will consist of eleven ships, which, joined to those now cruizing in the Gulf, will make up a respectable fleet, and such as our nation has not had at sea for 60 years. These, it is expected, will be sufficient to protect our eastern trade (which is very considerable), and to chastise the insolence of the Barbary States. These formidable armaments will cost the States at least half a million of ducatoons, besides the pay of the officers, and upwards of three thousand two hundred seamen, which are employed on board them.

*Bologna, March* 2. "In the beginning of this year a report was spread, that the Pope designed to make a journey to Paris. This news appears to be confirmed, at least with regard to the desire of the holy father to visit France, as our senate hath received a letter from

M. Gozzadini, their ambaſſador at the Holy See, adviſing that his Holineſs will ſet out for Avignon immediately after Eaſter."

*Rome, March* 10. "By an authentic letter from Conſtantinople we learn the agreeable news that the Grand Signior, by the interpoſition of the Court of France, has lately permitted the Biſhop of the Latin Church, who hitherto exerciſed his epiſcopal functions privately in the ſuburbs of Pera, to reſide in the convent of Capuchins at Galatea, where he has permiſſion to exerciſe them in a public and ſolemn manner. The Latin Catholics in the metropolis were penetrated with joy at the news of this event."

*Emmerick, March* 4. "Who can paint our conſternation? We have no more dykes: The Rhine threatens us with total ruin—all the dykes are overflowed—our fields have diſappeared under the waters. The deſolation that reigns here is above all deſcription—a great number of people have been ſwallowed up by the waves. The cattle periſh by hundreds—hunger and cold join their ravages to thoſe of the waters. Boats laden with proviſions and fodder have been ſent to the aſſiſtance of the unhappy ſufferers, but could ſave but a ſmall number of them. In ſhort, if God does not help us our ruin is inevitable. The calamity ſeems to be general, and every day we receive news ſtill more afflicting than before."

*Copenhagen, March* 2. "The emigrations from out of Holſtein have lately been ſo great, on account of the encouragement which the American States give to foreigners ſettling among them, that the King has found it neceſſary to publiſh an ordinance, forbidding, under heavy penalties, any perſon leaving the Daniſh dominions without licenſe, and even ſuch as go to San Croix, or St Thomas, are by this new ſtatute to give bond for their return, or ſecurity for their ſettling in thoſe provinces.—Jews are hereby alſo reſtricted from removing their property, and ſhips of any nation whatſoever having ſuch perſons on board, without the proper paſſports, are liable to ſeizure as having contraband goods on board.

"Mr Dana, the American conſul in this city, has juſt finiſhed the treaties of commerce between the King and the United States, by an article of which the two powers are reſtricted from importing ſuch articles as are the produce of each other."

*Heidelberg, Feb.* 27. "This morning the beautiful bridge of this city was carried away by the ice; half the town is under water, and the deſtruction and miſery both within and without the walls is beyond deſcription. The inhabitants of Neuenheim have all taken refuge in other places, and oppoſite to that village the ice is accummulated in heaps as high as a houſe."

*Paris, March* 16. "The Count de Treſſan, knight of Malta, and the Chevalier de Luçon, captain of the regiment of Champaign, being on the 9th inſt. at the Opera, the latter by accident trode upon the toes of the former. M. de Luçon immediately aſked his pardon, which did not ſatisfy M. de Treſſan, who inſiſted on an apology being made before witneſſes. Both grew warm, a challenge was given and accepted, to meet between eight and nine the next morning. The Count de Treſſan was immediately wounded in the noſtril; and his antagoniſt, contented with that ſatisfaction, had turned his ſword downward; but the enraged Count renewed the combat, and unfortunately received a wound that divided his lungs, of which he expired immediately. The attorney-general hath received orders from the King to proſecute the Chevalier de Luçon, who has abſconded.

"The Count de Treſſan was preſented to the King only eight days ago, with this honourable teſtimony, that fourteen Treſſans were killed at the battle of Nordlingen in 1645, under the great Conde."

*Paris, March* 19. "The ſeverity of the weather has driven the wolves in many places even into the villages, where they have devoured ſeveral perſons.—Many foreign aquatic birds have alſo been driven into ſome of our provinces; among the reſt we have accounts from Rheims, that quantities of a bird called a Saw-bill, have frequented the Marſh of Champigny this winter; they are ſaid to come from Louiſiana, and were till now unknown in France; theſe birds have a black beak, armed with four ranges of teeth like a ſaw, from which they take their name; they weigh five or ſix pounds."

*Paris, March* 19. "The Queen having bought the hounds with which the Duc

de Chartres uſed to hunt the wild boar, amuſes herſelf very much in the chace of that ferocious animal; ſometimes her Majeſty takes that diverſion in a carriage, and ſometimes on a very fleet Engliſh hunter, attended by a very brilliant ſuite.

"The King has been moſt liberal in his relief of the poor during this ſevere winter; the damage done in the country by the inundations is beyond deſcription; his Majeſty has reſerved four millions to be diſtributed among the poor farmers, who are almoſt all ruined. This ſum is the produce of the ſavings of extraordinary expences lately retrenched, and one-tenth of all penſions above 10,000 livres.

*Madrid, Feb.* 28. "The preſents which the Grand Seignor has juſt ſent by his ambaſſador to his Catholic Majeſty, conſiſt of two elephants male and female, a greeniſh coloured dromedary, four tigers, two lions, ten pelicans, ten very beautiful litters, three ſets of horſes, twenty-four mules, richly harneſſed, ten caſkets of precious ſtones, among which are diamonds of different colours; ſeveral pearls, two of them of the bigneſs of a turkey's egg, on which are engraved the king's arms; a carbuncle of an extraordinary ſize and luſtre; 1322 Chriſtian ſlaves, who lived on the borders of the Black Sea, and had no means of ranſoming themſelves: Among theſe ſlaves are 200 women, and 50 children of both ſexes.

"In return, his Catholic Majeſty ſends the Grand Seignor 60,000 muſquets, with other military ſtores, which will be tranſported in two ſhips of the line, the galleries of which are gilt, and having 800 men on board, including officers, ſoldiers, and ſeamen. Theſe are all clothed in one very rich uniform, and ordered to remain in the ſervice of his Highneſs, if he requires it, to be paid, however, by his Catholic Majeſty, during their abode with the Grand Seignor."

*Madrid, March* 4. "The overflowings of the rivers which traverſe our provinces have occaſioned the greateſt deſolation in all the places which it has inundated."

*Madrid, March* 7. "Letters from Mexico adviſe, that the new town of Guatimala, and the neighbouring places, have experienced a terrible ſhock of an earthquake, which threw down a number of houſes, and greatly damaged ſeveral others.

*Madrid, March* 9. "An expreſs from Cadiz is juſt arrived at the Pardo, with the important news, that the fleet from Lo Vera Cruz arrived ſafely in that port the 1ſt of this month, being compoſed of ſix regiſter ſhips, whoſe cargoes, in gold, ſilver, and jewels, are valued at 27,281,140 piaſtres, beſides 5278 ſerons of cochineal, and 5413 of Indigo, &c."

*Hague, April* 5. "The Pruſſian ambaſſador has, by order of his maſter, delivered a letter from their High Mightineſſes, in which his Majeſty refers them to a letter delivered to them by his miniſter on the 21ſt of January, relative to the public inſults offered to the Stadtholder; and ſays, that it is with the greateſt diſpleaſure he perceives thoſe inſults ſtill continued by the publication of the groſſeſt libels almoſt daily. His Majeſty brings to the minds of their High Mightineſſes, that the Republic was founded by the courage, prudence, and even the blood of their Stadtholders, and that whenever they have been ſo ill adviſed as to aboliſh the Stadtholderate, that the State has been torn by internal troubles; and thence his Majeſty infers, that no member who wiſhes well to the Republic can have the moſt diſtant idea of aboliſhing the Stadtholderate, or to confine its authority to ſuch narrow limits as to render it a mere cypher. His Majeſty ſays, he is not ignorant that a jealouſy for the public liberty has, at times, cauſed the abolition of that dignity; but without enquiring how far that fear was well founded at that time or not, he is convinced no ſuch thing can happen now; and was the Republic in any ſuch danger, his Majeſty would be the firſt to intereſt himſelf for the Republic; but the King aſſures them, that neither the preſent Stadtholder nor his immediate ſucceſſors wiſh to do any thing againſt the liberty of the Republic, of which his Majeſty is ready to become guarantee at any time. This being the truth, the King adviſes their High Mightineſſes, as a friend, to put an end to the public inſults offered to the Prince of Orange; that they will endeavour to put a ſtop to every idea of dangerous innovation in their government, and re-eſtabliſh a good underſtanding between the Prince and his opponents."

*Hague, April 5.* "Parties never raged higher in Holland than at preſent; they are divided into two, the Prince and the French: The former prevails every where with the people, but in the aſſembly of the States-General the latter preponderates. A powerful neighbour watches theſe motions with a jealous eye, as the head of the Brunſwick intereſt on the Continent."

*Rotterdam, April 5.* "Saturday night this whole city was in an uproar. The Burgher Company under Lieut. Colonel Jean-Jacob Eſevier, whoſe turn it was to mount guard at the Stadthouſe, had drawn up as uſual for that purpoſe under Lieutenant Swyndrecht, when they were aſſailed by a very numerous mob, *Vivat Orange*, (long live the Prince of Orange), and threatened to force two of the burghers, whom they particularly diſliked, from their ranks: the company attempted to march to their poſt, but the crowd was ſo great they could not get on: orders were then given to fire, which they did, and wounded ſeven or eight people. As ſoon as this was heard at the Stadthouſe the alarm-bell was rung; the firing diſperſed the mob for a few minutes, but they ſoon aſſembled in greater force, and when the company got to the ſtadthouſe they were moſt violently attacked, and obliged to fire ſeveral times, and many perſons were killed. Two or three of the foremoſt in the affray were taken, and put into confinement; two of the wounded are dead, and ſix are dying; there is a vaſt number wounded. In the morning every thing ſeemed quiet. On Sunday night Mr Wicrop's company mounted guard, having moſtly orange-coloured cockades in their hats. The diſturbance ſeems at this moment to be increaſing; there is an immenſe mob at the Stadthouſe, and they demand, firſt, that the priſoners be releaſed; ſecondly, that the Volunteers, a corps in oppoſition to the Orange intereſt, be aboliſhed; and thirdly a fiat to the requeſt of the burghers.—All the place is in an uproar: God grant us a ſpeedy end to this diſturbance; but we fear that it will have ſome dreadful conſequences, as it ſeems to be a conteſt between the Orange intereſt and the oppoſite party."

*Rotterdam, April 7.* "Tranquility is happily reſtored in this city. The mob, which had again aſſembled on Monday afternoon (after the Burghers guard had gone off duty), gathered together before the houſe of M. Wiſhoff, Burgeſs of the Company of Lieutenant Colonel J. J. Elzevier, and member of the Free Corps. On theſe new commotions, the Burghers Company, No. 5. of Mr Secretary Betaarts, got immediately under arms; and repairing to the townhouſe, the Enſign of the Company, M. Gerard Vander Loog Houthoff, was detached with 40 men towards the Princeſtraat; which having taken poſt before the houſe of the ſaid M. Wiſhoff, a reſolution of the Noble, Grand, and Venerable Magiſtrate, was there read againſt all riots. The mob then diſperſed by degrees; ſince which no tumultuous commotions have taken place."

*Utrecht, April 2.* The following is an extract of a letter from the Agent of his Imperial Majeſty, dated Tunis, Jan. 21, and addreſſed to the Imperial Conſul at Marſeilles:

"I have the ſatisfaction to inform you, that on the 21ſt of laſt month Hameide Pacha, Beglier-Bey, ordered me, by his Prime Miniſter Haggai Muſtapha Koggai, to repair to his Court with the envoy of the Porte. I accordingly went as ſoon as poſſible. After giving me the moſt obliging reception, he ſolemnly declared to me, in the preſence of all his Miniſters and principal officers, that he moſt ſincerely accepted, as did the whole Regency, of the peace with his Imperial and Royal Majeſty, after the example of Algier, and in obedience to the orders of the Grand Signior. In conſequence of which he ceded to me the houſe deſtined for the Conſul of the Empire, and had permiſſion to hoiſt and diſplay there the flag of our auguſt Sovereign. This ceremony took place on the 4th inſt. in the preſence of all the Divan, who were pleaſed to aſſiſt there with their muſic and that of the Dey; ſo that the peace is perfectly ſecured. It is not the ſame with the Republic of Venice; this Regency hath juſt declared war againſt her."

## WEST-INDIES.

From the ANTIGUA CHRONICLE.

*St John's, Antigua, Jan. 14. 1784.*

ON Thurſday evening laſt, his Excellency General Shirley embarked on board the ſchooner Stag, James Robin-

ſon maſter, for St Kitt's, and after a pleaſant night, they got through the Narrows at ſeven o'clock in the morning, where they met the French troops going to Nevis in two ſloops, St Kitt's being given up that morning. The Stag made eaſy ſail for Baſſeterre, where the Engliſh colours were flying on all parts of the town; as ſoon as ſhe anchored Mr Berkeley came on board to wait on his Excellency, who immediately diſembarked. Nothing could equal the joy that appeared in all quarters of the town; the bay was lined from end to end, and ſcarce an avenue left for a paſſage. On his Excellency's landing, they hauled his boat upon the ſhore, crew and all, ſo great was their deſire to enjoy the bleſſings of an Engliſh government; nothing but happineſs was to be ſeen, the houſes were filled with large companies.

His Excellency dined at the Court Houſe, aback of which guns were placed, and fired at every toaſt. In the evening, a very large bonfire was made in the ſquare, in the midſt of which was the French King's coat of arms, that had been put up in the Court Houſe, and left behind by that miſcreant Druro, the late harbour-maſter, in his hurry to get on board. At night the whole town was illuminated, and dancing in every part till day-light: the number of ſquibs, &c. fired that night was great; the next morning the colours were again hoiſted, and every demonſtration of joy appeared that could be ſhewn. All the offices were opened on Monday, for the diſpatch of public buſineſs; the General gave notice that he was to be ſeen on buſineſs every day, Sundays excepted, from eight in the morning till one afternoon.

*St John's, Antigua, Jan.* 16. "The releaſe of our ſuffering neighbours has at length taken place in the following order: at St Chriſtopher's on the 8th inſtant, at Nevis on the 9th, at Dominica on the 10th, and at Montſerrat on the 12th. By all accounts the rejoicings at the different iſlands were very great. At St Chriſtopher's they obeyed the requiſition made in the extraordinary ſpeech which was made them. At Montſerrat, the inhabitants paid two hundred and forty joes to get rid of their troubleſome maſters. We have received the addreſs from the legiſlature of the laſt mentioned iſland, to Monſieur la Coſte, the ſecond in command. No compliment was paid to Monſieur Goullon, the Governor, as his conduct merited none. St Lucia was reſtored to the French on the 4th inſtant."

*Extract of a letter from Nevis, Jan.* 11.

"I landed here yeſterday evening from Grenada, about half an hour after Governor de Freſne's departure for Martinique, with his troops, and I confeſs to you I never ſaw ſuch general joy and ſatisfaction as there is now in this little loyal iſland. On Friday 80 French ſoldiers was landed here from St Kitt's, to enforce the payment of 90 johanneſes claimed by the French for taxes to the 31ſt of December, which was paid by the treaſurer on the bay, and before De Freſne ſailed he ſent for five more johanneſes, which he pretended to be due for one day's tax omitted; and this was alſo paid to him, though it was not his due.

"At De Freſne's departure from this government, not a Britiſh ſubject bid him good bye, or exchanged a ſingle ſyllable with him.

"Upwards of two thouſand people are now in motion with muſic, flags, and joyful hearts, at being relieved and ſet free from the yoke of deſpotiſm. Bonfires were lighted on all the hills, and in town, and the following effigies were carried about:

"The late Governor---M. Villeroy, the firſt Harbour-Maſter (and friend to M. De Freſne, the late Governor), a d---n'd troubleſome wretch. We are told here, that General Shirley landed amidſt the acclamations of thouſands at St Kitt's. So great is the noiſe I can write no more. May God proſper Great Britain and her colonies."

## ENGLAND.

*From the* LONDON GAZETTE.

By the KING.

### A PROCLAMATION,

*For diſſolving the preſent Parliament, and declaring the calling of another.*

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy

Privy Council, to diſſolve this preſent Parliament, which now ſtands prorogued to Tueſday the ſixth day of April next: We do, for that end, publiſh this our royal proclamation; and do hereby diſſolve the ſaid Parliament accordingly: And the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes, and the Commiſſioners for Shires and Burghs, of the Houſe of Commons, are diſcharged from their meeting and attendance on Tueſday the ſaid ſixth day of April next. And we, being deſirous and reſolved, as ſoon as may be, to meet our people, and to have their advice in parliament, do hereby make known to all our loving ſubjects, our royal will and pleaſure to call a new Parliament. And do hereby further declare, That, with the advice of our Privy Council, we have this day given orders to our Chancellor of Great Britain to iſſue out writs in due form, for calling a new Parliament; which writs are to bear teſte on Friday the twenty-ſixth of this inſtant March, and to be returnable on Tueſday the eighteenth day of May following.

Given at our Court at the Queen's Houſe, the 25th day of March, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, in the twenty-fourth year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

By the KING,

## A PROCLAMATION,

*In order to the electing and ſummoning the ſixteen Peers of Scotland.*

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS we have, in our Council, thought fit to declare our pleaſure for ſummoning and holding a Parliament of Great Britain, on Tueſday the 18th day of May next enſuing the date hereof: In order therefore to the electing and ſummoning the ſixteen Peers of Scotland, who are to ſit in the Houſe of Peers in the ſaid Parliament, we do, by the advice of our Privy Council, iſſue forth this our royal proclamation, ſtrictly charging and commanding all the Peers of Scotland to aſſemble and meet at Holyroodhouſe, in Edinburgh, on Saturday the eighth day of May next enſuing, between the hours of twelve and two in the afternoon, to nominate and chuſe the ſixteen Peers to ſit and vote in the Houſe of Peers, in the ſaid enſuing Parliament, by open election and plurality of voices of the Peers that ſhall then be preſent, and of the proxies of ſuch as ſhall be abſent, (ſuch proxies being Peers, and producing a mandate in writing, duly ſigned before witneſſes, and both the conſtituent and proxy being qualified according to law). And the Lord Clerk Regiſter, or ſuch two of the principal Clerks of the Seſſion as ſhall be appointed by him to officiate in his name, are hereby reſpectively required to attend ſuch meeting, and to adminiſter the oaths required by the law to be taken there by the ſaid Peers, and to take their votes; and immediately after ſuch election made and duly examined, to certify the names of the ſixteen Peers ſo elected, and ſign and atteſt the ſame, in the preſence of the ſaid Peers the electors; and return ſuch certificate into Our High Court of Chancery of Great Britain.——And We do, by this our proclamation, ſtrictly charge and command and require the Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, and all other the magiſtrates of the ſaid city, to take ſpecial care to preſerve the peace thereof, during the time of the ſaid election; and to prevent all manner of riots, tumults, diſorders, and violence whatſoever. And We ſtrictly charge and command, That this Our Royal Proclamation be duly publiſhed at the market croſs of Edinburgh, and all the county towns of Scotland, twenty-five days at leaſt before the time hereby appointed for the meeting of ſaid Peers to proceed to ſuch election.

Witneſs Ourſelf at Weſtminſter the twenty-fifth day of March, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, in the twenty-fourth year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

At the Court at the Queen's Houſe, the 25th day of March 1784.

PRESENT,

The KING's Moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council.

A NEW Great Seal of Great Britain having been prepared by his Majeſty's Chief Engraver of Seals, in purſuance of a warrant to him for that purpoſe, under his Majeſty's royal ſignature; and the ſame having been this day

preſented to his Majeſty in Council, and approved; his Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed to deliver the ſaid new ſeal to the Right Honourable Edward Lord Thurlow, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, and to direct that the ſame ſhall be made uſe of for ſealing all things whatſoever which paſs the Great Seal.

STEPHEN COTTRELL.

*St James's, March* 27.

The King has been pleaſed to appoint Ralph Heathcote, Eſq; his Majeſty's Miniſter Plenipotentiary to the Elector of Cologne, to be alſo his Majeſty's Plenipotentiary to the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel.

*Whitehall, March* 27.

The King has been pleaſed to grant his royal aſſent to and confirmation of the Reverend Claudius Crigan, clerk, batchelor of arts, to be Biſhop of the Iſle of Man and Sodor, he having been nominated and preſented to the ſaid Biſhopric by her Grace Charlotte Ducheſs Dowager of Athole, and Baroneſs Strange, on its becoming void by the death of the Right Reverend Dr George Maſon, late Biſhop thereof.

The King has been pleaſed to appoint the Right Honourable Lord Viſcount Galway to be Comptroller of his Majeſty's Houſehold.

The King has been pleaſed to grant to the Right Honourable William Wyndham Grenville, and the Right Honourable Lord Mulgrave, the office of Receiver and Paymaſter-General of his Majeſty's Guards, Garriſons, and Land Forces.

*Whitehall, March* 27.

The King has been pleaſed to grant to Lloyd Kenyon, Eſq; his Majeſty's Attorney General, Chief Juſtice of the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, and Juſtice of the counties of Cheſter and Flint, the office of Maſter or Keeper of the Rolls and Records in Chancery, in the room of the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Sewell, Knight, deceaſed.

*Whitehall, March* 28.

The King has been pleaſed to conſtitute and appoint the Right Honourable Richard Viſcount Howe, Charles Brett, Eſq; Richard Hopkins, Eſq; the Honourable John Jefferies Pratt, the Honourable John Leveſon Gower, the Right Honourable Henry Bathurſt, commonly called Lord Apſley, and the Honourable Charles George Perceval, to be his Majeſty's Commiſſioners for executing the office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dominions, iſlands, and territories thereunto reſpectively belonging, and of all other his Majeſty's plantations, dominions and territories, in parts beyond the ſeas.

*Whitehall, March* 30.

The King has been pleaſed to appoint Richard Pepper Arden, Eſq; his Majeſty's Solicitor-General, to be his Attorney General, in the room of Lloyd Kenyon, Eſq.

The King has been pleaſed to grant to Richard Pepper Arden, Eſq; the ſeveral offices of Chief Juſtice of the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, and Juſtices of the counties of Cheſter and Flint.

The King has been pleaſed to grant to the Honourable James Luttrell the office of Maſter Surveyor of his Majeſty's Ordnance.

At the Court of St James's, the 2d of April 1784.

PRESENT,

The KING's Moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council.

THIS day the Right Honourable Lloyd Kenyon, Maſter of the Rolls, was, by his Majeſty's command, ſworn of his Majeſty's Moſt Honourable Privy Council, and took his place at the Board accordingly.

*Queen's Palace, March* 29.

The Queen has been pleaſed to appoint the Honourable Richard Howard to be her Majeſty's Secretary and Comptroller of her Majeſty's Houſehold, in the room of George Auguſtus North, Eſq.

*Whitehall, April* 3.

The King has been pleaſed to appoint Sir Richard Reynell, Bart. to be one of his Majeſty's Commiſſioners for the management of the duties on Salt.

*St James's April* 7.

The King has been pleaſed to appoint Archibald Macdonald, Eſq; one of his Majeſty's Counſel, to be his Solicitor General, in the room of Richard Pepper Arden, Eſq; now his Majeſty's Attorney General.

[The Gazette likewiſe contains his Majeſty's order in council for taking off the quarantine at preſent ſubſiſting upon all ſhips bound from the ports of Spain

in the Mediterranean, and the iſland of Minorca, the veſſels being loaded with goods the product of Spain.]

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A letter from Berlin ſays, that the King of Pruſſia, in conſideration of the winter being ſevere, and every thing very ſcare, has given a large ſum of money to buy proviſions for the ſoldiers families, who are in his ſervice, and alſo to diſtreſſed families who are out of employment.

The decided part the Pruſſian has taken reſpecting the Prince of Orange has revived the ſpirits of the Britiſh party at Rotterdam, who now publicly execrate the French influence. The healths of Frederic and the Stadtholder are conſtant toaſts in that city, and whoever refuſes them meets with marks of the public reſentment.

The moſt authentic accounts from Amſterdam declare, that the noble part the King of Pruſſia has taken in favour of the Stadtholder, by his ſpirited expoſtulation with the States General, had given univerſal ſatisfaction to the Engliſh party in the United Provinces, and deranged the politics of France ſo effectually, that the Miniſter from Verſailles was preparing to return to Paris.

Letters from Paris mention that a ſtorm ſeems riſing in the North. The King of Pruſſia, it is reported, has recalled his Miniſter from the Court of Verſailles.—That gallant veteran, it appears, is determined to ſupport his relation the Prince of Orange againſt all the machinations of his natural enemies, and the intrigues of the Court of Verſailles.

Letters from Amſterdam adviſe, that, by the laſt accounts from Batavia, it appeared that ſeveral Jews, and other ſtrangers, had been thrown into priſon, and fined in very conſiderable ſums, for endeavouring to raiſe a mutiny among the ſubjects of the States General. The above accounts add, that a malignant fever had raged in Batavia, and over the whole iſland of Java, during the months of September and October laſt, which carried off great numbers of the inhabitants, particularly thoſe of the lower rank.

The flota from the Havannah, which arrived at Cadiz the firſt March, brings in ſpecie about twenty-nine millions hard dollars, and in cochineal, cocoa, and other ready money articles, near eleven more. This event is of the utmoſt conſequence to the commercial ſtate of Europe, as the money will ſoon circulate.

Government has received repeated advices from France, ſtating the increaſe of the marine of that country, and the ſailing of ſmall ſquadrons upon ſecret expeditions. India is ſuppoſed to be the place of deſtination.

On Wedneſday the 7th, Lieut. Col. Franks arrived at the Secretary of State's office from America, with the ratification, on the part of Congreſs, of the treaties concluded with the United States by Great Britain and the other powers engaged in the late war. About three o'clock next afternoon Mr Franks ſet off for Paris.

One day laſt week a perſon was ſummoned before William Winter, Eſq; one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the county of Surry, for having given a receipt not duly ſtamped, when the Juſtice convicted the man in the penalty.

On Thurday the 8th, the Duke Fitz-james, the Marquis Conflans, and the Duke Lygony, arrived at the Duke de Charter's houſe in Portland Place, from France.

The Marquis d'Almodovar, the late ambaſſador from the court of Madrid to Great Britain, is appointed to return here in the ſame capacity.

## WESTMINSTER ELECTION.

Thurſday April 1ſt, being appointed by the High Bailiff for the nomination of candidates to repreſent the city of Weſtminſter in Parliament, an immenſe body of people aſſembled in Covent Garden before ten o'clock. About noon Lord Hood and Sir Cecil Wray aſcended the Huſtings, attended by a numerous train of friends; and ſoon after Mr Fox, preceded by a band of muſic and ſeveral flags, arrived from St James's Street.—The writ, with the act to prevent bribery and corruption being read, the ſeveral candidates, Lord Hood, Sir Cecil Wray, and Mr Fox were nominated.

Mr Fox advanced, but the unceaſing clamour prevented him from ſaying more than a few words which could not be diſtinctly heard.

Lord Hood and Sir Cecil Wray then came forward. Lord Hood was heard for a few minutes; he declared he had no perſonal wiſh to gratify in offering himſelf a candidate; his only ambition was to ſerve his country, and if the electors thought proper to honour him with

their voluntary ſuffrages, he ſhould conſider it as one of the greateſt honours of his life.

Sir Cecil Wray made ſeveral attempts to ſpeak, but to no purpoſe.

The whole was one continued ſcene of riot and confuſion till two, when the poll began, and continued till three, when the numbers were,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For Mr Fox | - - | 302 |
| Lord Hood | - - | 264 |
| Sir Cecil Wray | - - | 238 |

At the cloſe of the poll, Mr Fox came forward, and thanked the electors for their ſupport, declared that it would be his conſtant ſtudy to merit their free ſuffrages.

At the cloſe of the poll on Saturday the 17th, for Weſtminſter, the numbers were,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For Lord Hood | - - | 6053 |
| Sir Cecil Wray | - | 5465 |
| Mr Fox | - - | 5305 |

Mr Pitt has exhibited another inſtance of his extreme attention to public intereſt. The death of Mr Garth occaſioned a vacancy in the commiſſion of the exciſe. A gentleman intimately connected with the Dukes of Beaufort and Rutland applied, through the medium of their intereſt, for the place of commiſſioner. Mr Pitt, however, reſiſted the application, as there was a perſon enjoying a penſion of one thouſand pounds a-year, whom he propoſed to prevail on, if poſſible, to accept the commiſſionerſhip as an equivalent, and relieve the public, by reſigning his penſion.

It is not the intention of Miniſters, we hear, to bring forward any other buſineſs this ſeſſion than what is abſolutely neceſſary. They expect to open the Parliament with a majority of 70 to 40; but they wiſh to put off the heavy buſineſs until the temper of the people ſhall be more ſettled, and the heats and enmities incident to a general election have ſubſided. In this all men muſt go with them; and ſurely, if the nation is not to ſuffer by the delay, it would be well if a ſhort adjournment was to take place immediately after their meeting.

A very material change will be made in the Cabinet before the meeting in which, as has been foreſeen, the Earl of Shelburne will appear. If it had been communicated ot the nation that the Noble Earl was connected with Miniſters during their appeal to the people, they muſt have ſuffered from the diſcovery.

The friends of Lord North and Mr Fox are quite planet-ſtruck at the different returns that have been made of members lately elected. "Is it poſſible ſuch a one ſhould be thrown out (ſay they), and for our friend to be deſerted by his old conſtituents, becauſe he eſpouſed the coalition? In fact, the people are either mad or we are ſo, for ſupporting a cauſe which is univerſally reprobated."

Sir Guy Carleton is ſhortly to go out Governor-General of our remaining territories in North America. Beſides other officers of government, he is to take with him a Biſhop, who is to make "the crooked ſtraight, and the rough ways ſmooth;" or in other words, to make his way good, and render that cold climate as warm and comfortable to (ſome of) the inhabitants as any other part of America.

On Wedneſday the 24th of March, the city was thrown into a very great ferment, by one of the moſt extraordinary incidents that ever happened in the annals of hiſtory. Some robbers having got out from the fields, over the garden wall of the Lord Chancellor's houſe in Great Ormond Street, from thence found means to get into the area, where they forced two bars off the kitchen window, and proceeding through it up ſtairs, made their way into a room adjoining to his Lordſhip's ſtudy. Here they broke open ſeveral drawers, and at laſt coming to that in which the Great Seal of England is depoſited, they took it out of the bag in which it was kept, and carried it off, together with two ſilver-hilted ſwords, and about 100 guineas in money.

The two ſwords appeared to have been drawn on their getting poſſeſſion of them, probably in order to ſecure their retreat, and the ſcabbards left behind.—The inſtrument alſo, by which theſe daring robbers forced their entrance, was left behind, which is ſaid to be a plain but extremely well-tempered tool, at once calculated for defence or breaking open locks. It is remarkable, that the robbery was effected with ſo little noiſe, that not one of his Lordſhip's ſervants heard them, either during their ſtay, or in wrenching of the bars.

The Great Seal conſiſts of two parts, about the ſize of a ſmall plate, one folding over the other, and the impreſſion made by it on both ſides of the wax. The matter of which the Seal is compoſed, is chiefly ſilver, in value about 30l. but the workman ſhip amount to a vaſt deal more.

*MEMBERS CHOSEN FOR THE NEW PARLIAMENT.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abingd n, | E. Lov. Loveden, | |
| Agmondesham, | Will. Drake, ſen. | |
| | Will. Drake, jun. | |
| Aldborough, York. | Jo. Galley Knight, | |
| | R. Pepper Arden, | |
| Aldobrough, Suff. | P. Cha. Crespigny, | |
| | Samuel Salt, Eſq; | |
| Andover, | Sir J. G. Griffin, Bart. | |
| | Ben. Lethieullier, | |
| Appleby, | Hon. J. Lev. Gower *† | |
| | —— Penn * | |
| St Alban's, | Hon. T. Grimſton *‡ | |
| | Col. Sloper | |
| Aſhburton, | Sir Robert Palk, Bart. | |
| | Robert Mackreth, | |
| Ayleſbury, | Sir T. Halliſax, Knt.* | |
| | T. Wrighten, Eſq; | |
| Banbury, | Lord North | |
| Bletchingly, | John Kenrick, Eſq; | |
| | John Nicholls, Eſq; | |
| Boſton, | Sir Peter Burrel, Knt. | |
| | D. Watherſtone, *† | |
| Brackley, | Timothy Caſwall | |
| | John William Egerton | |
| Bramber, | Sir H. Gough, Bart. | |
| | R. Pulteney, *† | |
| Bridport, | Charles Sturt, *† | |
| | Thomas Scott | |
| Bury St Edmunds | Sir Char. Davers, Bart. | |
| | Hon. G. F. Fitzroy, *† | |
| Bath, | Hon. J. J. Pratt | 27 |
| | Abel Moyſey | 17 |
| Unſucceſsful | Right Hon. W. Pitt | 14 |
| Bedford, | Samuel Whitbread | |
| | William Colhoun, *‡ | |
| Bewdley, | Lord Weſtcote | |
| Great-Bedwin, | Marquis of Graham | |
| | Major Manners * | |
| Beverley, | Sir Chr. Sykes, Bart. *† | |
| | Sir Ja. Pennyman, Bart. | |
| Biſhops-Caſtle, | William Clive | |
| | Henry Strachey | |
| Boroughbridge, | Lord V. Palmerſton, ‡ | |
| | Sir R. Sutton, Bart. ‡ | |
| Bridgenorth, | I. H. Browne, *† | 603 |
| | Tho. Whitmore | 596 |
| Unſucceſsful | Admiral Pigot | 345 |
| Bridgewater, | Hon. A. Poulett | 152 |
| | Hon Adm A. Hood* | 152 |
| Unſucceſsful | Sir G. Elliot, Bart | 5 |
| Barnſtaple, | William Devaynes, *† | |
| | John Cleveland | |
| Berkſhire, | G. Vanſittart, *† | 678 |
| | Hen. James Pye *† | 677 |
| Unſucceſsful, | W. H. Hartley | 301 |
| Berwick, | Lord Delaval | |
| | Hon. Gen. Vaughan | |
| Brecon Town, | Sir Cha. Gould, Knt. | |
| Buckingh. Town, | Right Hon. J. Grenville | |
| | Edmund Nugent *‡ | |
| Beeralſton, | Earl of Mornington *‡ | |
| | Lord Viſc. Fielding | |
| Bodmyn, | George Hunt | |
| | Sir J. Morſhead, Bt. ‡ | |
| Caermarth. Town, | George Philips | |
| Canterbury, | George Gipps | |
| | Charles Robinſon | |
| Colcheſter, | Sir E. Aſſleck, Bart. | |
| | Chriſtopher Potter *‡ | |
| Cambridge Town, | Major-gen. Adeane | |
| | John Mortlock *† | |
| Cambridge Univ. | Right Hon. Mr Pitt† | 337 |
| | Lord Euſton | 228 |
| Unſucceſsful | John Townſhend | 267 |
| | James Mansfield | 181 |
| Chicheſter, | Thomas Steele | |
| | G. W. Thomas, *† | |
| Chippenham, | George Fludyer | |
| | John Dawkins | |
| Calne, | Right Hon. Iſaac Barre | |
| | James Townſend | |
| Caſtle-Riſing, | Walter Sneyd, *‡ | |
| | Charles Boone † | |
| Cirenceſter, | Lord Viſc. Apſley | |
| | Samuel Blackwell | |
| Clitheroe, | Thomas Liſter | |
| | John Lee | |
| Caernarvonſhire, | John Parry | |
| Callington, | John Call | |
| | Paul Orchard, *† | |
| Corff-Caſtle, | Henry Bankes | |
| | John Bond | |
| Carliſle, | Earl of Surrey | |
| | Edmund Norton *‡ | |
| Clackmannan & Kinroſsſhire, | Hon. Lt Col. Cathcart *† | |
| Cricklade, | C. Weſley Coxe* | 442 |
| | Ro. Adamſon *† | 435 |
| Unſucceſsful | J. Walker Heneage | 373 |
| | Robert Nicholas | 358 |
| Caermarthenſhire, | Sir W. Manſell. Bart.* | |
| Cardiff, | Sir H. Mackworth, Bt. | |
| Cockermouth, | John Lowther | |
| | J. C. Satterthwaite *‡ | |
| Dunwich, | Sir Ger. Vanneck, Bart. | |
| Derby Town, | Lord G. A. H. Cavendiſh | |
| | Edward Coke | |
| Downton, | Hon. E. Bouverie. *† | 45 |
| | William Scott, *† | 44 |
| Unſucceſsful | Robert Shafto | 2 |
| | Hon. H. S. Conway | 1 |

This being a double return the numbers on the poll were

| | |
|---|---|
| Robert Shafto | 50 |
| Hon. H. S. Conway | 49 |
| Hon. Ed. Bouverie | 38 |
| William Scott | 37 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Dorcheſter, | Hon. George Damer | |
| | William Ewer | |
| Deviſes, | Sir J. Finely Long, Bart. | |
| | —— Addington, *‡ | |
| Dover, | Robert Preſton, *† | 596 |
| | Hon. Ja. Luttrel, ‡ | 527 |
| Unſucceſsful | John Trevannion | 253 |
| | John Bazeley | 180 |
| Droytwich, | Hon. Andrew Foley | |
| | Edward Willington | |
| Durham City | General Lambton | |
| | John Temped | |
| Dartmouth, | Arthur Holdſworth | 32 |
| | Richard Hopkins | 31 |
| Unſucceſsful, | J. H. Southcote | 1 |
| Devonſhire, | John Rolle | |
| | John P. Baſtard | |
| Dorſetſhire, | Hon. George Pitt | |
| | Fran. John Bourne *† | |
| Durham County | Sir T. Clavering, Bart. | |
| | Sir John Eden, Bart. | |
| Denbigh Town, | Richard Myddelton | |
| Denbighſhire, | Sir W. W. Wynne, Bt. | |
| Eaſt Grinſtead, | Henry Arthur Herbert | |
| | George Medley * | |
| Eaſt Retford, | Lord Lincoln | |
| | Wharton Amcotts | |
| Eveſham, | Sir John Ruſſhort, Bart. | |
| | C. W. Bough. Rouſe | |
| Eſſex, | Tho Berney Bramſtone | |
| | John Bullock | |
| Exeter, | Sir C. W. Bampfylde, | |
| | John Baring (Bart. | |
| Flint Town, | Watkin Williams | |
| Foxey, | Philip Rathleigh | 38 |
| | John Grant *† | 29 |
| Unſucceſsful | Lord V. Lewiſham | 9 |
| Great-Grimſby, | John Harriſon | |
| | Dudley Long | |
| Great Marlow, | William Clayton | 157 |
| | Sir T. Rich, Bart. * | 133 |
| Unſucceſsful | Colonel Keating | 80 |
| Gatton, | Lord Newhaven | |
| | Maurice Lloyd | |
| Grantham, | Francis Cockayne Cuſt | |
| | George Sutton | |
| Glouceſterſhire, | Hon. G. Cranf. Berkeley | |
| | Thomas Maſter *‡ | |
| Helſton, | Lord Hyde | |
| | John Rogers *‡ | |
| Huntingdonſhire, | Earl Ludlow | |
| | Lord V. Hinchingbroke | |
| Hythe, | Sir C. F. Ratcliffe, Bart. | 61 |
| | William Evelyn | 56 |
| Unſucceſsful | John Sawbridge | 38 |
| Hertford Town, | Mr Calvert | 363 |
| | Baron Dimſdale | 292 |
| Unſucceſsful | Mr Baker † | 223 |
| Horſham, | J. Crithley * | |
| | Philip Metcalf *† | |
| Huntingdon Town, | Sir W. Rawlinſon, Knt. | |
| | Launcelot Brown, jun. | |
| Harwich, | John Robinſon | |
| | Thomas Orde | |
| Haſlemere, | John Baynes Garforth | |
| | T. Poſſleworth *‡ | |
| Heytesbury, | Right Hon. W. Eden ‡ | |
| | W. Pierce Aſhe A'Court | |
| Hindon, | John W. Egerton | 114 |
| | Ed. Bearcroft *‡ | 104 |
| Unſucceſsful | Edward Cotsford | 68 |
| | A. Perſhouſe | 5 |
| Honiton, | Sir G. Yonge, Bart. | 351 |
| | Sir G. Collier, Knt. *† | 216 |
| Unſucceſsful | John Bailey | 137 |
| Haſtings, | John Stanley *† | 16 |
| | John Dawes | 16 |
| Unſucceſsful | Sir G. Webſter, Bart. | 3 |
| | Stephen Luſhington | 3 |

The return of Mr Stanley and Mr Dawes will be conteſted, the returning officer having rejected, as illegal, 50 votes tendered for the two laſt gentlemen.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hereford City, | Earl of Surrey ‡ | |
| | John Scudamore | |
| Heydon, | William Chaytor | |
| | Lionel Darell *† | |
| Herefordſhire, | Right Hon. T. Harley | |
| | Sir G. Cornewall, Bart. | |
| Haverfordweſt, | Lord Milford *‡ | |
| St Ives, | William Praed | |
| | Richard Barwell | |
| Ilcheſter, | Peregrine Cuſt | |
| | B. B. Hopkins *‡ | |
| Ipſwich, | W. Middleton *† | 460 |
| | John Cator * | 296 |
| Unſucceſsful | Char. A. Crickett | 7 |
| Kingſton upon Hull, | W. Wilberforce | 807 |
| | Sam. Thornton *† | 751 |
| Unſucceſsful | David Hartley | 337 |
| Knareſburgh, | Lord Viſc. Duncannon | |
| | James Hare | |
| Return conteſted by Sir J. Coghill, Bart. | | |
| | Pacon Frank | |
| Leiceſter Town, | John Macnamara | |
| | C Lorraine Smith *† | |
| Leominſter, | John Hunter *† | 312 |
| | P. Aſh. Curzon *‡ | 308 |
| Unſucceſsful | Sir G. Elliot, Bart. | 171 |
| Lincoln, | J. Fenton Cawthorne | |
| | Hon. R. L. Saville *† | |
| Luggerſhall, | Geo. Aug. Selwyn | |
| | N. Will. Wraxall † | |
| Ludlow, | Lord Clive | |
| | Richard Payne Knight | |
| Lymington, | Harry Burrard | |
| | Robert Colt * | |
| Lynn, Norfolk, | Hon. H. Walpole | 318 |
| | Criſp Molyneux | 316 |
| Unſucceſsful | B. P. Fountayne | 72 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lewes, | Hon. Thomas Pelham | |
| | Thomas Kempe | |
| Lyme-Regis, | Hon. Henry Fane | |
| | Hon. Thomas Fane * | |
| Lincolnſhire, | Sir John Thorold, Bart. | |
| | C. Anderſon Pelham | |
| Launceſton, | Rt. Hon. C. G. Perceval | |
| | George Roſe *‡ | |
| Liverpool, | B. Gaſcoyne, jun. | 959 |
| | Lord Penryn | 869 |
| Unſucceſsful | Col. Tarleton | 855 |
| St Michael's, | David Howel *† | 27 |
| | R. Wilbraham *† | 21 |
| Unſucceſsful | C. Hawkins | 21 |

The returning officer declared he would leave the choice of the two laſt to the Houſe, but if he had a right to give the caſting vote, he gave it in favour of Mr Wilbraham.

| | |
|---|---|
| Malmſbury, | Lord Viſc. Melbourn ‡ |
| | Lord Viſc. Maitland ‡ |
| Minehead, | John Fownes Luttrell |
| | Henry Beaufoy |
| Maidſtone, | Clement Taylor |
| | —— Edwards *† |
| Midhurſt, | Henry Drummond |
| | Benj. Lethieullier ‡ |
| Milbourne-Port, | Lord Muncaſter |
| | John Townſon |
| Malton, | Sir T. Gaſcoigne, Bart. |
| | Rt Hon. Edm. Burke |
| St Mawes, | Earl Nugent |
| | Hugh Boſcawen |
| Monmouthſhire, | J. Hanbury (ſince dead) |
| | John Morgan |
| Montgom. Town, | Whitſhed Keene |
| Malden, | John Strutt |
| | Lord Waltham * |
| Marlborough, | Earl of Courton |
| | Sir Ph. Hales, Bart. *‡ |
| Monmouth Town, | Sir John Stepney, Bart. |
| Morpeth, | Peter Delme |
| | Sir James Erſkine, Bart. |
| Newport, Hants, | Hon. H. S. Conway ‡ |
| | Edw. Ruſhworth *† |
| Newcaſtle under Line, | Archib. Macdonald |
| | Richard Vernon |
| Norwich, | Sir H. Harbord 2305 |
| | —— Wyndham* 1297 |
| Unſucceſsful | Hon. Mr Hobart 1233 |
| Newark upon Trent | Hon. Lieut.-col. Sutton |
| | Lord Mulgrave |
| New Romney, | Sir Ed. Dering, Bart. |
| | John Smith ‡ |
| Northampton, | Lord Compton *† |
| | Mr Trotman *‡ |
| Newton, Lanc. | Sir T. Davenport, Knt. |
| | Thomas Peter Leigh |
| Newton, Hants, | John Barrington |
| | James Worſley *‡ |
| Norfolk, | Sir Edw. Aſtley, Bart. |
| | Sir J. Wodehouſe, Bt.* † |
| Newport, Cornw. | Sir John Coghill, Bart. |
| | Sir Jo. Miller, Bart.*† |
| Nottingham, | Robert Smith |
| | Daniel Parker Coke |
| Northallerton, | Henry Peirſe |
| | Edwin Laſcelles |
| Oxford University, | Sir William Dolben, Bart. |
| | Francis Page |
| Oxford City, | Lord Robert Spenſer |
| | Hon. Capt. Bertie |
| Old Sarum, | Hon. John Villers * |
| | George Harding |
| Oxfordſhire, | Lord Charles Spenſer |
| | Lord Viſc. Wenman |
| Oakhampton, | John Luxmore *‡ |
| | Thomas Wiggins *† |
| Peterborough, | James Phipps |
| | Richard Benyon |
| Petersfield, | William Jolliffe |
| | Tho. Sam. Jolliffe |
| Pool, | William Morton Pitt |
| | Michael A. Taylor** |
| Portſmouth, | Sir H. Fetherſtonhaugh, Bart. |
| | Hon Capt Cornwallis *† |
| Plympton, | Paul Ounſy *† |
| | John Stephenſon † |
| Penryn, | Sir J. St Aubyn, Bt.† 86 |
| | Sir Fr. Baſſet, Bt. 86 |
| Unſucceſsful | John Smith 83 |
| | Richard Jackſon 73 |
| Pembrokeſhire, | Sir Hugh Owen, Bart. |
| Pembroke Town, | Hugh Owen |
| Plymouth, | Robert Fanſhawe *† |
| | John Macbride *† |
| Preſton, | Gen. Burgoyne 536 |
| | Sir H. Houghton, Bt. 531 |
| Unſucceſsful | Ralph Clayton 228 |
| | Mich. A. Taylor 225 |

The return of Gen. Burgoyne and Sir H. Houghton will be conteſted.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pontefract, | John Smyth | 364 |
| | Capt. Southeron* | 197 |
| Unſucceſsful | Sir Rowland Wynn | 167 |
| Queenborough, | Commodore Bowyer *† | |
| | John Aldridge*† | |
| Rippon, | William Laurence | |
| | Hon. Fred. Robinſon | |
| Rocheſter, | Sir C. Middleton, Bt.* | 76 |
| | Nathaniel Smith * | 62 |
| Unſucceſsful | G. Finch Hatton † | 47 |
| Ryegate, | William Billingham * | |
| | Edward Leeds * | |
| Reading | Francis Anneſley | |
| | R. Aldworth Neville | |
| Richmond, Yorkſhire, | Earl of Inchiquin *† | |
| | Charles Dundas | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Radnor, | Edward Lewis | |
| Rye, | William Dickenſon | |
| | Rt.Hon.C.W.Cornwall | |
| Scarborough, | Earl of Tyrconnel | |
| | George Oſbaldeſton*‡ | |
| Shafteſbury, | H. Wintrop Mortimer | |
| | Adam Drummond | |
| Surrey, | Sir Jo. Mawbey, Bart. | |
| | Hon. William Norton | |
| Somerſetſhire, | Sir J. Trevelyan, Bart. | |
| | Edward Phelips, jun. | |
| Staffordſhire, | Sir E. Littleton, Bart. | |
| | Sir J. Wrotteſley, Bart. | |
| Suffolk, | Sir J. Rous, Bart. | |
| | Joſhua Grigby*† | |
| Unſucceſsful | Sir C. Bunbury, Bart. | |
| Stockbridge, | Hon. Capt. J. Luttrell | |
| | T. Boothby Parkins * | |
| Shoreham, | John Peachey | |
| | Sir Cecil Biſhoop, Bt. | |
| Saliſbury, | Hon. Will Bouverie | |
| | William Huſſey | |
| Shrewſbury, | Sir C. Leighton, Bart. | |
| | William Pulteney | |
| Southampton, | —— Fleming *† | |
| | —— Amyatt | |
| Stamford, | Sir G. Howard, K. B. | |
| | Henry Cecil | |
| Steyning, | Hon. R. Howard *† | |
| | Sir J. Honeywood, Bt.*† | |
| Sandwich, | Philip Stephens | |
| | Charles Brett | |
| Seaford, | Hon. Mr Neville * | |
| | Sir Peter Parker, Knt.* | |
| Southwark, | Henry Thornton | |
| | Sir B. Turner, Knt. *† | |
| Stafford, | Rich. Brinſley Sheridan | |
| | Hon. Ed. Monkton | |
| Sudbury, | Mr Smith, jun. * | |
| | Mr Langſton, jun. *† | |
| Tamworth, | John Courtenay | |
| | John Calvert | |
| Tiverton, | Sir John Duntz, Bart. | |
| | Hon. Dudley Ryder*‡ | |
| Taunton, | Benjamin Hammet | |
| | Alex. Popham*‡ | |
| Tewkſbury, | James Martin | 266 |
| | Sir W Cordington, Bt | 210 |
| Unſucceſsful | John Embury | 150 |
| Thetford, | Sir Ch. Kent, Bart. *† | |
| | George Jennings *‡ | |
| Thirſke, | Sir T. Frankland, Bt.*† | |
| | Sir G. P. Turner, Bt.*† | |
| Taviſtock, | Right Hon. Rich. Rigby | |
| | Rt. Hon. R. Fitzpatrick | |
| Tregony, | Sir H. L. Kenyon*‡ | 90 |
| | Ro. Kingſmill *‡ | 90 |
| Unſucceſsful | Lord V. Lewiſham | 69 |
| | John Bottſworth | 69 |
| Totneſs, | Sir P. Jen. Clerke, Bart. | |
| | James Phipps † | |
| Truro, | Col. Boſcawen *‡ | 12 |
| | Col. M'Cormick | 12 |
| Unſucceſsful | Hon. Tho. Erſkine | 11 |
| | Roger Wilbraham | 11 |
| Wallingford, | Sir Francis Sykes, Bart. | |
| | Thomas Aubrey *‡ | |
| Wendover, | Robert Burton *† | 109 |
| | John Orde | 109 |
| Unſucceſsful, | Earl Verney | 14 |
| | William Joliffe | 14 |
| Winchester, | Henry Penton | |
| | R. Gamon, jun. *‡ | |
| Winſor, | Hon. John Montague | |
| | P. P Powney | |
| Woodſtock, | Sir H. Daſhwood, Bart.* | |
| | —— Burton *† | |
| Wycombe, | Lord Viſcount Mahon | |
| | Robert Waller | |
| Whitechurch, Hants, | Lord Viſc. Middleton | |
| | W. Selwyn | |
| Wareham, | Thomas Farrer | |
| | Charles Lebeſure *‡ | |
| Weobly, | John Scott | |
| | Andrew Bayntun | |
| Wigan, | John Cotes | |
| | Orlando Bridgeman*† | |
| Wenlock, | Sir H. Bridgeman, Bart. | |
| | John Bridgeman * | |
| Warwickſhire, | Sir Ro. Lawley, Bart. | |
| | Sir G. Shuckburgh, Bt. | |
| Warwick, | Robert Ladbroke | |
| | Hon. Cha. W. Greville | |
| Worceſterſhire, | Hon. Edward Foley | |
| | William Lygon | |
| Weſtbury, | Samuel Eſtwick | |
| | Chaloner Arcedeckne | |
| Weymouth and Melcombe Regis | Right Hon. Welb. Ellis | |
| | John Purling | |
| | Gabriel Steward | |
| | Sir T. Rumbold, Bart. | |
| Wilton, | Lord Herbert | |
| | Rt Hon. W. G. Hamilton | |
| Winchelſea, | John Neſbitt | |
| | William Nedham | |
| Worceſter, | Hon. William Ward | |
| | Samuel Smith, jun. † | |
| Weſt-Looe, | Major John Scott *‡ | |
| | John Lemon * | |
| Wells, | Clement Tudway | |
| | William Beckford *‡ | |
| Yarmouth, Norf. | Sir J. Jervis, K. B. † | |
| | Henry Beaufoy † | |
| Yarmouth, Hants, | Edward Morant | |
| | —— Francis *† | |
| Yorkſhire, | Will. Wilberforce † | |
| | Henry Duncombe | |
| York City, | Lord V. Galway | 1086 |
| | R. S. Milnes *† | 1019 |
| Unſucceſsful | Lord J. Cavendiſh | 911 |
| | Sir W. Milner, Bart. | 802 |

*SCOTS MEMBERS.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Aberdeenſhire, | Alexander Garden |
| Banffſhire, | Sir James Duff |
| Berwickſhire, | —— Hume *† |
| Clackmannan, | Colonel Cathcart |
| Dunbartonſhire, | Capt. Keith Elphinſtone |
| Dumfriesſhire, | Sir Ro. Laurie, Bart. |
| Edinburgh City, | James Hunter Blair |
| Edinburghſhire, | Right Hon. H. Dundas |
| Elginſhire, | Earl of Fife |
| Forfar, | Archibald Douglas |
| Fifeſhire, | Lieut.-Gen. Skene |
| Kincardineſhire, | Lord Adam Gordon |
| Perth, | Major-general Murray |
| Roxburgh, | Capt. George Douglas |
| Renfrewſhire, | William Macdowall |
| Stirlingſhire, | Sir Tho. Dundas, Bart. |

Thoſe marked thus (*) were not in the laſt Parliament.

† Elected inſtead of Members in the intereſt of Mr Fox

‡ Elected inſtead of Members who voted for Mr Pitt.

## SCOTLAND.

*Extract of a letter from Elgin, April 15.*

"This day came on the election of a member to ſerve in parliament for the county of Elgin. Earl Fife appeared as candidate, ſupported by only four of the real freeholders of the county. The gentlemen freeholders aſſociated againſt nominal and fictitious votes, unanimouſly ſet up Alexander Penroſe Cumming of Altyre, Eſq; as candidate, in oppoſition to Earl Fife. Earl Fife was choſen by a great majority of the perſons ſtanding on the roll of freeholders of the county.—A great majority of the real freeholders, who are proprietors of eſtates in the county, voted for Mr Cumming of Altyre, but they were outvoted by above double their number of thoſe perſons calling themſelves freeholders, who have no eſtate in the county. The oath appointed by the 16th act of the 7th of Geo. II. commonly called the oath of truſt and poſſeſſion, was put to them who had no eſtates in the county, and taken by them all, two gentlemen excepted. The independent freeholders aſſociated for the purpoſe of purſuing all legal meaſures for obtaining redreſs of the grievances of nominal and fictitious votes, are reſolved to proſecute for perjury, in a competent court of law, all thoſe perſons who have, without the qualification of landed property, taken the oath of truſt and poſſeſſion. Intimation of their reſolution was given in court before the oath was put, and a proteſt was taken againſt the election of Earl Fife, upon the grounds that the majority of of the real freeholders preſent voted for Mr Cumming of Altyre, and therefore that he ought to be found the member duly elected."

*Extract of a letter from Dumfries, April 6.*

"On Tueſday night the extenſive plantations belonging to Mr Copeland of Collieſton, and Mr Maxwell of Munchies, on the lands of Kichorn, &c. in the pariſh of Urr, by the burning of heath in the neighbourhood was ſet on fire, which continued to burn with aſtoniſhing rapidity till Wedneſday at noon, notwithſtanding the exertions of more than one hundred people convened to extinguiſh it, whereby above two hundred acres of the moſt thriving plantation in this part of the country, betwixt 15 and 20 years old, was totally conſumed.

On the 31ſt ult. the Lord Provoſt, at the unanimous deſire of the Council of this city, returned James Hunter Blair, Eſq; their late Repreſentative in Parliament, their thanks for his ſteady conduct, and particularly for ſupporting the conſtitution and the chartered rights of the nation.

The Lord Provoſt alſo laid before the Council a letter he had received from Thomas Morton, Eſq; Secretary to the Eaſt India Company, tranſmitting an unanimous vote of thanks of that Company to the Corporation for the addreſs they had preſented to the Throne againſt the violent proceedings in Parliament for deſtroying the rights and privileges of the Company, which was ordered to be recorded.

On the 8th inſt. there was a meeting of the freeholders of Mid-Lothian in the Parliament Houſe to elect a repreſentative in Parliament. Sir Alexander Dick was choſen preſes, and Mr Newbigging clerk. After the uſual forms, the Right Hon. Henry Dundas of Melville, Treaſurer of the Navy, roſe, and in a very elegant ſpeech, offered himſelf again a candidate to repreſent the county.—The roll was then called, and Mr Dundas was unanimouſly elected for the eighth time repreſentative for the county of Mid-Lothian.

After the election Mr Dundas gave an entertainment in the Aſſembly Hall, to his electors, and to ſeveral Noblemen

and Gentlemen, among whom were the Dukes of Hamilton and Buccleugh, the Earls of Crawford, Moray, Dalhouſie, Hyndford, and Roſebery, Lord Haddo, the Lord Provoſt and Magiſtrates of Edinburgh, Generals Mackay, Stewart, and Leſlie, Admiral Sir John Lockhart-Roſs, Mr Hunter-Blair, member of Parliament for the city and many others.

The Right Hon. Edmund Burke arrived at Edinburgh on Tueſday the 6th inſt.; dined on Tueſday at Dr Adam Smith's with Principal Robertſon, &c. On Wedneſday he was entertained at dinner at Fortune's, by the Bank of Scotland—On Thurſday he went to Hatton, the ſeat of the Earl of Lauderdale—On Friday he arrived at Glaſgow, accompanied by Lord Maitland, and dined at Profeſſor Millar's—On Saturday he was inſtalled as Lord Rector of the Univerſity of Glaſgow, on which occaſion he made an excellent ſpeech, declaring he had that day received by much the greateſt honour he ever had in his life. He was then entertained by the Univerſity at dinner—On Sunday he went to view Lochlomond—On Thurſday he returned to Edinburgh, and on Friday ſet off for England.

Monday the 5th curt. the 80th regiment, or Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, was diſcharged at Muſſelburgh.—Their arms and accoutrements were afterwards lodged in the Caſtle of Edinburgh.—Col. Dundas, in a very elegant ſpeech, thanked them for their ſervices, and uniform conduct, while under his command.—He concluded with adviſing them to retire in a peaceable manner to their reſpective places of abode, and exhorted them to a perſeverance in the ſame good behaviour, which had hitherto diſtinguiſhed them as ſoldiers and men.

We hear that a certain candidate for a ſouthern diſtrict of boroughs has been carried off by two Bow-ſtreet meſſengers, on a charge of having embezzled and given falſe receipts for the public money, to the amount of upwards of 100,000 l.

Laſt week nine ſhares of Royal Bank ſtock were ſold here at the amazing rate of 375 l. to 393 l. for each ſhare of 200 l. original ſtock. This is by far the greateſt price ever given for any bank ſtock in this country.

## MARRIAGES.

April 2. At Mountcoffer, Banffſhire, Captain Hay of Mountblairie, to Miſs Elizabeth, Robinſon Banff.

13. At London, the Right Hon. Lord Napier, to Miſs Clavering, daughter of Sir Thomas Clavering, Bart.

13. At Edinburgh, Captain William Lockhart of the royal navy, to Miſs Elizabeth Henderſon, ſecond daughter of the late Sir Robert Henderſon.

## BIRTHS.

March 21. At Merton, Lady Maxwell of Monreith, of a daughter.

28. At Fintray-houſe, Aberdeenſhire, Lady Forbes of Craigievar, of a ſon.

April 2. At Fetterneir, Aberdeenſhire, Mrs Leſlie of Balquhain, of a ſon.

## DEATHS.

Sept. 27. 1783. At Bombay, Lieut. John Macdonald of the 42d regiment, eldeſt ſon of Charles Lockhart Macdonald of Largie, Eſq;—He had ſerved as aid-de-camp to the gallant Col. Campbell, ſon to Lord Stoneſield, during the ſiege of Mangalore.

Jan. 1784. At Halifax, Nova Scotia, Lord Charles Montagu, brother to the Duke of Manchester.

Feb. 27. At Campvere, Captain John Steuart, of General Houſtoun's regiment.

March 18. At London, Capt. Frederick Hartwell, Lieutenant Governor of Greenwich Hoſpital.

25. At Edinburgh, Mrs Cha. Murdoch, wife of Mr John Tait, ſen. writer to the ſigner.

27. At Wiſhaw, Lanarkſhire, Robert Hamilton of Wiſhaw, Eſq;

28. At Edinburgh, Mr William Chalmer, ſurgeon.

April 2. At Berwick, aged 86, Lady Anne Purves, relict of the late ſir William Purves of Purveſhall, and ſiſter of the Earl of Marchmont.

3. At Dublin, the Right Hon. John Gore, Lord Annaly, Lord Chief Juſtice of the Court of King's Bench in Ireland.

4. At Fraſerſburgh, the Hon. Miſs Sophia Fraſer, youngeſt daughter of Alexander Lord Salton.

8. At Kenwood, in Middleſex, the Right Hon. the Counteſs of Mansfield, ſiſter of the late Earl of Winchelſea, and 48 years wife of the Earl of Mansfield.

16. At Abercairney, Perthſhire, Alex. Moray of Abercairney, Eſq;

17. At Croſs, near Elgin, much and juſtly regretted, the Hon. Dame Charlotte Sutherland, ſecond daughter of James Lord Duffus, and ſpouſe to John Innes, Eſq; merchant in Elgin.

19. At her houſe in Perth, the Right Hon. Jean Lady Dowager Rollo, relict of John Lord Rollo.